

OUR UNION'S INTERNAL DISCUSSION FORUM



GENERAL ORGANIZATION BULLETIN OF THE
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

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Also Attached: BI-ROC Bulletin Insert

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The General Executive Board of the IWW is accessible to all members. You may write to Board members and request an explanation of their votes. You may also write to them and ask that they sponsor a motion on behalf of you, your group, or branch. Only the Board Chair's summary of motions and votes is reported in the GOB. If you would like to see a specific Board member's report, or receive a full set of all Board member's reports, please write to GHQ. We request that you include a few dollars for every month's reports you want.

Members are welcomed to subscribe to the e-mail list of the General Executive Board, and follow the Board's activities.

To subscribe:

<http://lists.iww.org/mailman/listinfo>

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY COMMISSION

Communicate with all ISC members at once by
e-mailing solidarity@lists.iww.org.

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(807) 344-5390

ORGANIZING DEPARTMENT

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Official Notices

What's a GOB?

For some of you, this is your first ever *General Organization Bulletin* — familiarly known to most members as the GOB.

The GOB comes out a minimum of eight times a year. It is the union's internal newsletter, an open forum for members to discuss issues of concern to the union. It also serves as a window into the General Administration. Through the GOB you can follow the actions of the IWW's General Executive Board (GEB), and read our monthly (and annual) financial reports. The GOB also publishes notices from delegates and branches; news of elections, and discussion of the issues; as well as news or reflections on IWW campaigns and projects.

Submissions can be sent by e-mail to **mingoslim21@aol.com** with "*For the GOB*" as the subject line, or by postal mail to:

General Headquarters - IWW
Post Office Box 23085
Cincinnati, OH 45223 - U.S.A.

By long-standing IWW policy, submissions may not include personal attacks against other members, (except that members shall have complete freedom to criticize the conduct of union officials without censorship, subject to the provisions of By-Laws Article III, Section 6a). Submissions in violation of this policy will be returned to their authors by the GST.

Remember, the GOB is our medium for union democracy — our way of making sure that all members have access to the information they need to decide IWW policy. The IWW is the only union that we know of to issue this sort of uncensored forum for its members. So welcome to the GOB, and to the community of Wobblies!

- Mark Damron, General Secretary-Treasurer

Literature Sales & Merchandise

Inquiries regarding orders or payments should be addressed and sent to:

Literature Department c/o IWW
4530 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Industrial Worker Deadlines

The IWW's monthly newspaper deadline is the first Friday of every month, with the paper mailed usually by the third Friday of each month. IWW branches and groups are encouraged to report on their activities and send graphics and photos. Share your article and in-depth feature ideas with the editor by email or post before the deadline, please.

Send submissions to:

The Industrial Worker
PO Box 52003,
298 Dalhousie St,
Ottawa, ON K1N 1S0 Canada

or by email to iw@iww.org as plain text within the message.

Maintain Your Membership On-Line

If you visit <http://www.iww.org/dues.shtml>, you will find that you can pay your dues directly to GHQ via Paypal, an on-line secure transaction service. There's also an option to "subscribe" to your dues, so that every month the transaction is automatic. New members can also join through the internet.

iww-list@iww.org

The iww-list is an e-mail list for Wobblies. The list is not moderated, but it is filtered for spam. I'd like to encourage folks with e-mail to subscribe. You'll get an interesting mix of news, ideas, and calls for action.

To subscribe, point your web browser to:

<http://lists.iww.org/mailman/listinfo/iww-list/>

Good Standing

The address label on your envelope tells the last month for which GHQ has a record of your dues. If you believe you have paid for additional months, please check the list of delegates reporting (in this GOB) and with your delegate to make sure your dues have been forwarded to GHQ.

General Executive Board

Chair’s Report for June 2008

July 28, 2008

Fellow Workers:

This past month the Board approved a fiscal year budget that projects a budget deficit of \$1600. While trying to reach a balanced budget, some committees had their funding reduced to amounts lower than the previous fiscal year. The Organizing Department and its sub-committees were given 30% less than last year and the GEB reduced it’s own allocation to save on expenses. Likewise, the editor of the Industrial Worker agreed to accept a stipend of \$50 less per issue. However, due to the Philadelphia GMB asking for more money to continue to sort and mail the newspaper, the cost there increased \$1000. This increase was not passed by a separate motion, but instead was done so when the Board passed the current budget.

The Board has asked the Industrial Worker editor to look into a few aspects of the newspaper, namely distribution, and to submit a report in time for review by the 2008 General Assembly in London. Three Board members will be attending the General Assembly this year. In past years, the Board held a summer meeting the weekend of GA to discuss business. A save on expenses, there will not be a summer meeting this year, and just one Board member, FW Bryan Roberts, will be receiving partial funding for his travel to London for GA.

As you can tell from this GOB, eight proposals were submitted to the General Assembly. The agenda included in this GOB for General Assembly is only a draft, as the Board has not yet officially passed an agenda.

Elsewhere, charters were issued to three new GMBs in the BIROC, Leeds, Dunfries & Galloway, and Dorset. There is also a motion pending on the floor to decharter the Austin GMB.

In Solidarity,
J. Krpan – x356510
GEB Chair 2008

Clarification of Corporate Lingo - “Some overtime required”: Some time each night and some time each weekend

Board Reports received since previous report:

AB	- Alexis Buss:	07/03/08
ND	- Nick Durie:	07/08/08
HG	- Heather Gardner:	07/14/08
JK	- Jason Krpan:	06/24/08; 07/23/08
AL	- Adam Lincoln:	06/30/08
BR	- Bryan Roberts:	06/22/08; 07/22/08
EW	- Evan Wolfson:	07/02/08

Motions & Votes:

Y = Yes - N = No - A = Abstain - X = No Vote Yet

BIRT = abbreviation of “Be It Resolved That”

A date following a motion whose result is still pending indicates the date the motion expires.

The text of motions previously published in the GOB is not included. I am counting votes issued after motions officially passed, failed, or expired, for the purposes of members seeing how Board members vote.

EW-08: Industrial Worker Mailing Stipend

Filed: 2008-05-26

Status: FAILED 2008-06-23

AB: Y – ND: N – HG: Y – JK: N – AL: N – BR: N – EW: Y – 3-4-0

AB-04: RE: The temporary freeze on public discussion of Marie Mason’s case

Filed: 2008-06-03

Status: PASSED 2008-06-04

AB: Y – ND: X – HG: Y – JK: Y – AL: Y – BR: Y – EW: Y – 6-0-0

HG-08: Send the MPP to Branch Secretaries

Filed: 2008-06-03

Expires: 2008-08-02

Status: PENDING

AB: Y – ND: X – HG: Y – JK: N – AL: N – BR: N – EW: Y – 3-3-0

HG-09: Re-Assign Branch Contacts

Filed: 2008-06-09

Status: PASSED: 2008-06-12

AB: Y – ND: X – HG: Y – JK: Y – AL: Y – BR: Y – EW: Y – 6-0-0

Resolved, the GEB hereby reassigns FW Wolfson to be the GEB contact for the SFBA GMB and FW Gardner to be the contact for the Baltimore and Lancaster GMBs.

EW-09: GEB Funding Allocation for FW Gardner to General Assembly

Filed: 2008-06-15

Status: WITHDRAWN:

AB: X – ND: N – HG: X – JK: N – AL: N – BR: A – EW: Y – 1-3-1

Resolved, that the GEB instructs the GST to reimburse FW Heather Gardner for her travel expenses to attend the General Assembly in London, using whatever funds remain in the “GEB travel” line-item in the 2007-08 budget.

BR-02: Subsidize GEB Member Roberts’ Travel to 2008 General Assembly

Filed: 2008-06-22

Status: PASSED: 2008-07-18

AB: N – ND: Y – HG: X – JK: Y – AL: Y – BR: Y – EW: X – 4-2-0

Be it resolved that the General Administration of the IWW reimburse Bryan Roberts 50% of expenses incurred traveling to the 2008 General Assembly in London, England, up to a maximum amount of \$450 USD.

(Continued on the next page.)

JK-07: Fiscal Year 08-09 Budget

Filed: 2008-06-26

Status: WITHDRAWN

AB: N – ND: Y – HG: X – JK: A – AL: A – BR: X – EW: N – 1-2-2

ND-04: Resolution On Industrial Worker Possible Futures Appraisal

Filed: 2008-06-28

Status: WITHDRAWN

AB: X – ND: X – HG: X – JK: X – AL: Y – BR: X – EW: X – 1-0-0

Whereas,

- * The current format of the Industrial Worker may no longer suit the current patterns and needs of distribution.
- * The Industrial Worker is considered a critical part of our union's organising tool-kit.
- * There are distinct issues of distribution outside of the USA, leading to a separate arrangement for distribution covering the BIROC, and an ad hoc system for elsewhere - this system having arisen from chronic distribution failures.
- * No in depth studies have been conducted into alternatives.

Be it resolved:-

That the GEB conduct an inquiry, led by a committee of two GEB members and the Industrial Worker Editor, to research possible alternative distribution plans, looking at:-

- # The format and size of the paper.
- # The distribution networks that exist currently.
- # Other union and popular and progressive, class struggle mass media, and their patterns of distribution, readership, influence and strategies for growth of influence.
- # The potential, leverageable, prospective patterns of distribution with different options for the paper.

The report will outline the terms of inquiry and explanation of the avenues of investigation; it will summarise its key recommendations; it will list a full reference and appendix of all sources; It will point to costs and timescales; it will be complete to allow full consideration at General Assembly.

The report will stand as a GEB led discussion document for the whole union, and allow for General Assembly to make recommendations for the consideration of the GEB, or for the raising of a petition to put the item to ballot.

[NB: The committee will look at the results of the ND-02 Internal and External Communications Review, and will seek to consider its recommendations in this area in pursuance of the wider Industrial Worker Possible Futures Appraisal Objectives.]

EW-10: Subsidize GEB Member Gardner's Travel to 2008 General Assembly

Filed: 2008-07-02

Expires: 2008-09-02

Status: PENDING

AB: N – ND: X – HG: X – JK: X – AL: X – BR: X – EW: Y – 1-1-0

Be it resolved that the General Administration of the IWW reimburse Heather Gardner 50% of expenses incurred traveling to the 2008 General Assembly in London, England, up to a maximum amount of \$450 USD; and be it further

Resolved, that if BR-02 (2008) passes, FWs Gardner and Roberts shall obtain reimbursement in equal amounts, only from the remainder of the GEB Expenses line item for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget. If such line item remainder amount will not provide for 50% reimbursement of expenses to FWs Gardner or Roberts, then they shall share and share alike from whatever remains.

EW-11: Approve 2008-09 Budget

Filed: 2008-07-02

Status: PASSED: 2008-07-12

AB: X – ND: Y – HG: X – JK: Y – AL: Y – BR: Y – EW: Y – 5-0-0

The GEB hereby approves the attached budget, and directs the GST to publish the budget in the General Organization Bulletin, along with a special request for members to purchase Industrial Worker assessment stamps, to assist the union in maintaining publication of the Industrial Worker at the rate of ten issues per year.

EW-12: Industrial Worker Mailing Stipend

Filed: 2008-07-03

Expires: 2008-09-03

Status: PENDING

AB: X – ND: N – HG: Y – JK: X – AL: A – BR: N – EW: Y – 2-2-1

Whereas the Philadelphia GMB has indicated it is willing to continue mailing the Industrial Worker in the absence of a viable alternative; and

Whereas the Philadelphia GMB estimates it has averaged approximately 30 hours of member labor per mailing; and

Whereas the Philadelphia GMB has taken on the responsibility of mailing the Industrial Worker for several years, and has sent out mailings on a timely and competent basis; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the General Executive Board directs the GST to pay the Philadelphia GMB in the amount of \$300 for each issue of the Industrial Worker mailed, starting with the May 2008 issue, until such time as the General Executive Board finds a new arrangement for producing and distributing the Industrial Worker, or otherwise alters the paper's publication scheme. Payment is to be received by the Philadelphia GMB after each mailing, unless the GST and Philadelphia GMB agree to a different method of payment; and be it finally

Resolved, that the General Executive Board will review how the stipend is being used, and set a goal to find an alternate means of distribution by October 2008.

(Continued on the next page.)

ND-05: Resolution On Industrial Worker Possible Futures Appraisal

Filed: 2008-07-09

Status: PASSED: 2008-07-22

AB: X – ND: Y – HG: N – JK: X – AL: Y – BR: Y – EW: Y – 4-1-0

Whereas:-

- * The current format of the Industrial Worker may no longer suit the current patterns and needs of distribution.
- * The Industrial Worker is considered a critical part of our union's organising toolkit.
- * There are distinct issues of distribution outside of the USA, leading to a separate arrangement for distribution covering the BIROC, and an ad hoc system for elsewhere - this system having arisen from chronic distribution failures.
- * No in depth studies have been conducted into alternatives.

Be it resolved:

That the GEB mandates the Industrial Worker Editor to research possible alternative distribution plans, looking at:-

- # The format and size of the paper.
- # The distribution networks that exist currently.
- # Other union and popular and progressive, class struggle mass media, and their patterns of distribution, readership, influence and strategies for growth of influence.
- # The potential, leverageable, prospective patterns of distribution with different options for the paper.

The report will outline the terms of inquiry and explanation of the avenues of investigation; it will summarise its key recommendations; it will list a full reference and appendix of all sources; It will point to costs and timescales; it will be complete to allow full consideration at General Assembly.

The report will stand as a GEB led discussion document for the whole union, and allow for General Assembly to make recommendations for the consideration of the GEB, or for the raising of a petition to put the item to ballot.

ND-06: Officially Decharter Austin GMB

Filed: 2008-07-09

Expires: 2008-09-09

Status: PENDING

AB: X – ND: Y – HG: X – JK: X – AL: Y – BR: Y – EW: X – 3-0-0

When Austin GMB folded in January, it was agreed that of the \$900 in the branch bank account, \$400 would go to the IWW Organizing Department, \$400 would go to the Sato Fund and that \$100 would be left to build the branch back up.

There was an agreement that a person from the branch would send the cheques on. For whatever reason this has not happened.

We should, therefore:-

- [1] Officially decharter Austin GMB
- [2] Sequester the \$900 assets of the former GMB.
- [3] Allocate \$400 to the Organizing Department.
- [4] Allocate \$400 to the Sato Fund.
- [5] Secure \$100 for any Wobblies ready and willing to form a GMB in Austin.

AL-03: Approve charters for Leeds, Dumfries & Galloway, and Dorset GMBs

Filed: 2008-07-17

Status: PASSED: 2008-07-20

AB: X – ND: Y – HG: X – JK: Y – AL: Y – BR: Y – EW: X – 4-0-0

Whereas the BIROC has previously received three applications from the Dorset IWW group, Dumfries & Galloway IWW group, and the Leeds IWW group to receive Branch Charters;

Whereas the BIROC meeting of March 8 2008 considered the Leeds and Dorset applications to meet the requirements of the BIROC Constitution;

Whereas the BIROC meeting of September 16 2007 considered the Dumfries & Galloway application to meet the requirements of the BIROC Constitution;

Be it resolved that the GEB endorses these applications and requests the GST to issue charters for the above-named GMBs and mail the same to the BIROC at the earliest convenience.

GEB Branch Contacts - 2008

GEB members can assist your branch with projects you would like to do, help you navigate the administrative aspects of the union, and connect you with resources. This is a list which Board members are assigned to which branches. If your branch isn't listed, please call Headquarters.

Alexis Buss: Amherst IU 650, Boston GMB, Central NJ GMB, Edmonton GMB, Northern NJ GMB, NYC GMB, Ottawa GMB, Providence GMB, Toronto GMB, Upstate NY GMB, Washington DC GMB & Western Mass GMB.

Nick Durie: Albuquerque IWW, BI-ROC- Aberdeen IWW Group, Clydeside/Glasgow GMB, Dumfries IWW Group, Edinburgh GMB, and the Austin GMB, DFW IWW, Gainesville GMB & Pensacola GMB.

Heather Gardner: GLAM-ROC, Bay Area GMB, Fresno IWW Group, Los Angeles GMB & North Coast GMB.

Jason Krpan: Atlanta IWW, Central Illinois GMB (Champaign/Urbana), Montana GMB, Pittsburgh GMB, Twin Cities GMB & Waukegan IWW.

Adam Lincoln: AUS-ROC, BI-ROC - Leicester GMB, London GMB, Northwest (Greater Manchester) GMB, Norwich IWW Group, Tyne and Wear GMB & West Midlands GMB.

Evan Wolfson: Baltimore GMB, Chicago GMB, Carolina IWW, Denver GMB, Eastern Iowa IWW, Lancaster GMB, Madison GMB, Milwaukee GMB, Ohio Valley GMB, Phoenix GMB & Philadelphia GMB.

Bryan Roberts: Detroit GMB, Grand Rapids GMB, Lane County (Eugene) GMB, Olympia GMB, Portland GMB, Seattle GMB, Tacoma GMB, Vancouver GMB, Windsor IWW & Winnipeg GMB.



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Complaint to the GEB

Resolution of the Philadelphia General Membership Branch Regarding Abuse of Rank-and-File Members by members of the General Executive Board

Whereas the Industrial Workers of the World is a democratic union, in which the rights of the rank-and-file members are paramount;

Whereas the General Executive Board and other officers are elected to preserve the rights and interests of the members between Assemblies and referenda, not to act as rulers over them;

Whereas on April 10 of this year, GEB Chair Jay Krpan wrote FW Clayton Beverly of New Mexico, who had written civilly expressing his disapproval of FW Krpan's actions regarding the Industrial Worker, stating among other things: "I am entitled to reports and subjugation... In short... I do not care to hear from you";

Whereas GEB member Nick Durie, on June 24, wrote emails to FW White, a member of this Branch, calling him a "cunt," accusing our branch of embezzlement of union funds, and threatening to "rake over [our] finances";

Whereas GEB members Nick Durie and Adam Lincoln are signatories to and have circulated what purports to be an official statement of the British Isles ROC making accusations of financial impropriety against our branch and against members of our branch – accusations that have been thoroughly investigated by numerous charges committees and found by two General Assemblies to be entirely without merit;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Philadelphia General Membership Branch condemns the contempt and disregard for the democratic rights of the membership evidenced in these and similar communications, demands that FWs Durie, Krpan and Lincoln formally apologize to the entire membership for their conduct, and send this resolution for publication in the General Organization Bulletin, so that the entire membership can be appraised of the improper conduct of their elected officers and take appropriate action.

International Solidarity Commission

June/July ISC Report

Greetings Fellow Workers,

First off, I'd like to draw your attention to the IWW Japan blog

- <http://iwwinjapan.blogspot.com> -

compiled by members of our Japan delegation who met with independent unions in Japan (chiefly, the Freeters Union) while participating in actions against the G8 Summit in Hokkaido. Check it out!

On that note, in June and July, the ISC authorized five representatives, who are/will be making contacts, building solidarity, and raising the profile of the IWW in India, the Ukraine, France, and Mexico. We've also written resolutions in support of various labour causes in Poland, Iran, Japan, the U.S., and Spain (see below).

As this is the final ISC GOB report before GA in London, I would ask that fellow workers carefully consider the Gainesville proposal for branch/ISC liaisons – a very important step in building practical networks for solidarity and coordinated actions. (Please see the ISC statement in support of this proposal.)

Finally, I would like to congratulate all fellow workers involved in the recent, highly successful, international days of action against Starbucks! These actions, I think, illustrate very clearly the effectiveness and vast potential of international, industrial solidarity!

For the OBU,
Saku Pinta
ISC Chair

Congrats to fellow workers involved in Starbucks actions.

(Continued on the next page.)

ISC ASSESSMENT STAMPS

Buy a \$3 single-slot stamp . . .
or a \$6 double-slot stamp.

Help to support the vital work of
The International Solidarity Commission.

SP-8: Solidarity with Jakub G. and ZSP

Motion 27/06/08

Passed 27/06/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The International Solidarity Commission (ISC) of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) – an international, worker-run labour union – stands in solidarity with Jakub G. of the Union of Syndicalists of Poland (ZSP in its Polish initials) and condemns the union-busting policies of the Lionbridge Corporation. Jakub, a union representative, was summarily dismissed on February 12th, 2007 by his employer Lionbridge Poland shortly after the announcement that a union had been formed in the workplace. The official reason given for the dismissal by the company was that Jakub had “damaged the company’s image” by publishing an article on the internet: this despite no substantiating evidence to support this allegation and the fact that the article in question was in fact written by someone else.

It is clear that Jakub’s dismissal was motivated solely by the desire of the Lionbridge Corporation to keep the union out of the workplace. The ISC regards union-busting manoeuvre as completely unacceptable behaviour and in plain violation of Polish labour law. As such, the ISC will inform the membership of the IWW and international contacts of Lionbridge’s activities; keep updated on the case of Jakub G.; and encourage our members in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Germany to join labour unionists and friends of organized labour in Dublin, Copenhagen, Madrid, Poland, Slovakia, and other locations to mobilize and picket Lionbridge until this case is resolved and Jakub is reinstated.

SP-9: International Workers’ Solidarity against Starbucks Union-Busting

Motion 27/06/08

Passed 27/06/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The International Solidarity Commission (ISC) of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) – an international worker-run labour union – wishes to express solidarity with Starbucks baristas in Grand Rapids, Michigan, U.S.A., Sevilla, Spain, and locations the world over who have been treated unfairly by the Starbucks Corporation for union organizing. Furthermore, the ISC officially endorses the Global Days of Action against Starbucks and encourages IWW members and allies to participate.

The firing of Sevilla National Confederation of Labour (CNT-AIT) Union of Commercial and Hotel Workers member and barista Monica on April 24th, 2008 and Grand Rapids IWW Starbucks Union member and barista Cole Dorsey June 6th, 2008 for union activity shows the Starbucks Corporation’s contempt for worker rights on both sides of the Atlantic. Despite the best efforts to craft a “caring”, “ethical”, or “progressive” corporate image, these recent firings only add to a history of labour violations clearly exposing Starbucks as a firm no different from other multinationals – namely, with neoliberalism as the guiding principle and an ravenous appetite for profit as their overriding concern.

In opposition to the Starbucks’ brand of neoliberal globalization, on July 5th, the IWW, CNT-AIT, and our allies worldwide will respond with international workers’ solidarity during the Global Day of Action against Starbucks.

MP-36: Eli Meyerhoff as delegate to India

Motion 27/06/08

Passed 27/06/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World hereby authorizes Fellow Worker Eli Meyerhoff of the Twin Cities GMB as an official representative to India during his upcoming trip from July 6th to August 16th, 2008. FW Meyerhoff has been recommended to the ISC by the Twin Cities GMB. While in India, FW Meyerhoff will meet with independent labor unions and other workers organizations to exchange information and extend the greetings of the ISC. FW Meyerhoff is asked to send a report to the ISC at least once a month and is also encouraged to write articles about his experiences for the Industrial Worker, the ISC Bulletin, *www.org* and other IWW media. If this resolution is passed, FW Meyerhoff will be provided with an on-line copy of the ISC's Policies and Procedures manual.

SP-10: Endorsement of Euro-Mediterranean counter-summit declaration

Motion 27/06/08

Passed 04/07/08

SP - Yes

MP - Abstain

DJ – Yes

A Mediterranean Union of struggle.

Far from being a new idea the Mediterranean Union is actually a direct descendant of the 1995 Barcelona declaration and conference. The French foreign affairs minister, Bernard Kouchner, has presented it as a renewal of the Barcelona agreement. The conference was attended by all the members of the EU along with 12 countries from the south and east of the Mediterranean: Morocco, Egypt, Israel, The Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Albania and Mauritania.

Although the aims and objectives of these talks may be worrying they are far from surprising.

The main focus was on economic issues, namely the creation of a free trade zone and the liberalisation of markets over the next two years. This will mainly translate into privatisation of southern businesses and very likely takeovers of this business by capitalist groups from the north. The dramatic social consequences of these policies are well known: lay-offs, increased inequality and the development of the local bourgeoisie, reduced access to services and increases in prices. The French foreign affairs ministry has clearly stated its position on relations between France and the Maghreb region "The Maghreb countries (Morocco, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania) are a market and an economic partner. We are the main exporter to Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria. The entire region has very good prospects for the future: reforms, privatisations, major construction projects and new markets linked to modernisation."

There are also issues of 'security' notably the so-called struggles against terrorism and corruption. In the second case there is never any progress because far too many interests are at play and in both cases used as an excuse to throw militants into prison and to increase classic repressive measures (police, army) and new technological methods (notably DNA databases).

(Continued on the next page.)

We can of course also see the spectre of immigration behind these questions of security. The region has developed a certain expertise in migration: methods of control and repression have been increased (naval patrols), sub-contracting of the management of migratory flows to countries on the front line (notably Morocco, Algeria, Libya and Mauritania) to prevent the arrival in Europe of African migrants. Freedom of movement is good for capital and good for the bosses, but not for human beings, especially the poorest. The French Foreign Ministry has also said “We have a cultural proximity to these countries and we have many common interests: links with France and with the EU, the challenge of globalisation, Islamist pressures, Migratory pressures (as countries of emigration and, increasingly, as a point of transit) and terrorism (especially as a target).

All of these forms of repression are also used against any protest movements: trade union rights are under attack, sacking and even arrest of militants (those arrested in Morocco on May 1st for example) This is far from the supposed respect for and defence of human rights that this union is supposed to develop and that the Barcelona conference is supposed to have advanced.

Finally this union is supposed to ensure peace. But on what basis? On the status quo as it seems to be so far or on the end of the exertion colonialist and imperialist power, of the north against the south, Israel over Palestine, but also between the southern countries, in sum the right of people in these countries to control their own lives?

This ‘new union’ is a tool for the powerful and their interests, so we call for the creation of a Mediterranean union of people in struggle, aiming to further the following causes: -the respect and development of basis freedoms, notably in terms of trade union rights and freedom of expression and organisation.

- The release of all political prisoners, the end of regimes of terror and the right to a fair trial.
- The end of policies of privatisation of public services and of attacks on workers rights and living conditions.
- The free movement of people, the closure of detainment centres and the annulment of anti-immigration laws.
- An end to the effective political, economic and social colonisation of the south by the north and also within the southern region.
- The respect of non-official and non-state-sanctioned cultures.



SOLID

PROGRAM :

Here's some information about the concrete program:

- A demonstration on Saturday 5th of July from 14 PM to 18 PM in a popular place of Paris;
- A meeting-concert on 5th of July evening with speeches of international people that we invited (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Palestine, activists for human rights and migrants questions);
- 6th of July morning: Euro-Maghreb coordination meeting
- 6th of July afternoon, meeting to discuss about Mediterranean struggles and how to organize together for international solidarity

SP-11: Raphi Rechitsky as an ISC delegate to the Ukraine

Motion 29/06/08

Passed 29/06/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World hereby authorizes Fellow Worker Raphi Rechitsky of the Twin Cities General Membership Branch as an official representative to the Ukraine during his visits to Kiev, Kharkov and Uzhorod in July 2008.

While in the Ukraine, FW Rechitsky will attempt to make contacts, exchange information, and extend greetings with independent labour and working class organizations on behalf of the ISC. FW Rechitsky is asked to write a report for the ISC within a reasonable period after his return to the U.S. outlining the groups' contacted, labour issues in the Ukraine, and other relevant information. Furthermore, FW Rechitsky is encouraged to write about his experiences for the Industrial Worker, ISC Bulletin, iww.org and/or other IWW media.

SP-12: Michael Ashbrook as ISC delegate in Paris

Motion 04/07/08

Passed 04/07/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World hereby authorizes Fellow Worker Michael Ashbrook of the Luxembourg IWW (GLAMROC) as an official representative to the Paris, France during his visit from July 4th to 6th 2008 for the Euro-Mediterranean counter-summit. While in the Paris, FW Ashbrook will attempt to make contacts, exchange information, and extend greetings with independent labour and working class organizations on behalf of the ISC. FW Ashbrook is asked to write a report for the ISC within a reasonable period after his return to Luxembourg outlining the groups' contacted, labour issues in the France, and other relevant information. Furthermore, FW Ashbrook is encouraged to write about his experiences for the Industrial Worker, ISC Bulletin, iww.org and/or other IWW media.

(Continued on the next page.)

MP-37: Condemning Police Raid on Doro-Chiba Railway Workers Union in Tokyo

Motion 06/07/08

Passed 06/07/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), an international democratic labor union, strongly condemns the July 4th raid on the Doro-Chiba Railway Workers Union by the Tokyo Metropolitan Police.

According to reports, about 100 of the metropolitan police raided the headquarters of the Doro-Chiba Railway Workers Union in Tokyo from approximately 10:00 AM. to 1:30 PM on July 4th, 2008. When a board member of Doro-Chiba, Mr. Kawasaki, pointed out a critical error in the search warrant the police brutally grabbed hold of him, tearing his shirt, and put him in confinement in his underwear. The ISC's observations in Japan lead us to conclude that this raid and the inhumane treatment of Mr. Kawasaki is part of a concerted effort to suppress peaceful protest against the G-8 Summit, a controversial meeting of the world's eight most powerful nations, which is taking place presently in Hokkaido.

The ISC stands firmly with the Doro-Chiba Railway Workers and all like-minded organizations exercising their basic human right to free speech by protesting the G8 Summit and its anti-worker agenda. Our delegates in Japan are participating in and documenting this historic struggle in solidarity with the workers of Japan and all workers around the world who are suffering from the neoliberal policies of the G8 nations.

We demand that the Tokyo Metropolitan Police and all government bodies in Japan immediately cease this campaign of repression and respect the right to peaceful protest. We call on the police department to issue a public apology and compensate the victims of this raid and other similar police actions that have taken place during the past two weeks.

MP-38: Allocate \$50 to No G8 Legal Team

Motion 06/07/08

Passed 06/07/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

Whereas: ISC delegate Diane Krauthamer in Japan has issued an urgent appeal to raise money for desperately needed legal defense in the face of police repression against anti-G8 demonstrators in Sapporo, Japan,

Whereas: A member of the All-Freeters Union, an organization that the IWW has recently developed warm ties of friendship and solidarity with, is among the arrested and faces the possibility serious prison time,

Whereas: The No G8 Action Coalition, which is partly coordinated by ISC delegate Sabu Kohso, generously donated over \$600.00 to make it possible for FW Krauthamer and Abe Greenhouse to make the trip to Japan,

Be it resolved that: The ISC immediately sends \$50.00 to the No G8 Legal Team via Diane Krauthamer and makes efforts to raise additional money for this fund through donations.

MP-39: Remove Canopy Son from Japan delegation

Motion 09/07/08

Passed 09/07/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

Whereas, on July 3, 2008 the ISC temporarily suspended the delegate status of Canopy Son, one of the members of the present ISC delegation to Japan, in response to serious concerns raised by other delegates,

Whereas, the ISC has investigated the situation further and has reviewed detailed testimony that Canopy Son engaged in inappropriate and offensive behaviour that violated the spirit of the ISC's Policies and Procedures and potentially the IWW Constitution,

Whereas, Canopy Son's alleged behaviour has made at least one member of the delegation feel personally unsafe,

Whereas, Canopy Son has not responded to an invitation to explain himself to the ISC and the three other delegates are unanimous in their belief that he needs to be removed from the delegation,

Be it resolved, that Canopy Son is officially removed from the ISC's delegation in Japan and is no longer authorized to represent the ISC or the international body of the IWW in any official capacity.

MP-40: Protesting Death Sentence for Iranian Teacher

Motion 18/07/08

Passed 18/07/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The International Solidarity Commission (ISC) of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), an independent international labor union, strongly protests the recent decision of Iran's Supreme Court, which upholds the death sentence passed against Mr. Farzad Kamangar, a teacher, journalist and trade unionist in Kamyaran.

On February 25, 2008 Mr. Kamangar was arrested and charged with Moharebeh ("enmity against God,") and with membership in the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK). We do not believe these charges deserve a death sentence, to say the least.

However, the Revolutionary Court of Iran did not even present any solid evidence to prove that Mr. Kamangar was a member of the PKK, an affiliation he has vehemently denied. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and other reputable observers have insisted that Mr. Kamangar did not receive a fair trial and that the actions of the court have not upheld even the most basic international standards of justice. The entire closed-door hearing lasted less than five minutes. We believe it is clear that Mr. Kamangar was convicted because of his Kurdish ethnicity and his legitimate involvement in the labor movement, grassroots activism, and investigative journalism.

It is part of the ongoing campaign of repression against public dissent and the independent labor movement in Iran. This is not acceptable.

(Continued on the next page.)

The ISC is also outraged that Farzad Kamangar was severely tortured during his interrogation by Iranian authorities. Evidence of his torture has been clearly documented. We demand that all individuals involved in torturing Mr. Kamangar be held responsible for their actions and that the Iranian government compensate him for his suffering.

Most recently, we have become aware that law enforcement officials have now asked Mr. Kamangar to write a letter asking for forgiveness. This may be an attempt by authorities to back away from this unjustifiable sentence without losing face. However, as Mr. Kamangar himself points out, “the problem is that I have not committed any crime to ask for forgiveness”. Asking Mr. Kamangar to write such a letter, especially after the suffering he has been put through by law enforcement officials, is degrading and insulting.

The International Solidarity Commission of the IWW insists that this death sentence must be overturned. Executing Farzad Kamangar would be a great injustice that would result in widespread international condemnation of the government of Iran. Since there has never been any real evidence that Mr. Kamangar has committed any crimes, we also call on the government of Iran to immediately release him, clear him of all charges, and issue a full public apology for his wrongful imprisonment.

MP-41: Janky Hellface and Oliver Lanti as delegates to Mexico

Motion 23/07/08

Passed 23/07/08

SP - Yes

MP - Yes

DJ – Yes

The ISC hereby authorizes Fellow Workers Janky Hellface and Oliver Lanti of the San Francisco Bay Area GMB as official ISC delegates to Mexico during their two-week trip to Mexico City and the Oaxaca area, beginning July 23rd, 2008. Both fellow workers have experience working in solidarity with Mexican workers organizations and both speak some Spanish. During their trip, the delegates are asked to meet with independent unions and workers organizations in Mexico on behalf of the ISC, extend the greetings of the IWW, share information and literature, and assess the potential for deeper collaboration in the future. The delegates are especially encouraged to follow up on meetings made by Fellow Workers Paul Bocking, Eric Larsen, and Justin Vitiello, as well as a contact referred to us by Eduardo Soriano-Castillo of Jobs with Justice. Fellow Workers Hellface and Lanti are expected to take notes, and if possible photos and videos, and submit a report to the ISC by the end of August. They are also strongly encouraged to write timely articles for the Industrial Worker, *Solidaridad*, the ISC Updates Bulletin and other IWW publications. Fellow Workers Hellface and Lanti have been provided with an electronic copy of the ISC’s Policies and Procedures Manual.



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IWW

P. O. Box 23085
Cincinnati, OH 45223

IAC Chair's Report:

July 2008

Passed Motions:

- SO1 - NOMINATION OF CHAIR
- SO2 - WORKING RULES
- WW1 - ADMIN PRIVILEGES TO FW JANKY HELFFACE
- SO9 - CHECKING TRANSFER
- SO10 - IWW.ORG BACKUPS
- WW2 - FORUM REDESIGN WORKING GROUP

Withdrawn Motions:

- SO3 PUBLISH MPP

New Motions

SO #9: I will transfer \$750 from our checking account to our savings account (in order to accrue interest and offset bank account fees).

SO #10: Starting in August 2008, budget an additional \$20 - 30 per month for Ezoshosting administered backups of iww.org.

WW #2: Whereas the forums on IWW.org should be improved to encourage members to use them for secure, internal discussion of IWW issues

be it

Resolved that the IAC creates a forums workgroup of a minimum of 2 fellow workers who will be charged with the task of overhauling the forums and reporting to the IAC on their progress, and completion of the project in a timely manner.

Votes:

- | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|-----------------|
| SO #9 | SO - Y | WW - Y | AD - X - Passes |
| SO#10 | SO - Y | WW - Y | AD - X - Passes |
| WW#02 | SO - Y | WW - Y | AD - X - Passes |

Reports Received:

Steve Ongerth: - July 3rd Walt Weber: - July 25th

Alistair Davidson - No Report Received since on Committee

Join the General Defense Committee of the IWW

The cost is only \$5 for initiation and \$5 per quarter.

Mail Check or Money Order to:

GDC
c/o IWW
PO Box 23085
Cincinnati, OH 45223-3085



Finance Report:

IWW.ORG Finances as of July 1, 2008:

Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union, Account # 148631

Savings Account (\$2) -	\$25.10
Checking Account (\$17) -	\$1,084.01
Total -	\$1,043.75

Income for June 2008 -	\$0
Expense for June 2008 -	\$1

IWW.ORG PayPal (May 2008)

Beginning Balance - May 1, 2008 -	\$206.58
Ending Balance - May 31, 2008 -	\$204.15

Income (various donations) -	\$110.00
Total Expense -	\$112.88

Expense (www.ezoshosting.com) -	\$103.50
Expense (PayPal fees) -	\$8.93

Net income/expense -	(-\$2.43)
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IWW.ORG PayPal (June 2008)

Beginning Balance on June 1, 2008 -	\$204.15
Ending Balance on June 30, 2008 -	\$205.06

Income (various donations) -	\$113.00
Total Expense -	\$112.54

Expense (www.ezoshosting.com) -	\$103.50
Expense (PayPal fees) -	\$9.04

Net income -	\$0.91
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Total assets as of July 1, 2008 -	\$1289.07
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Other Items of Business:

I have not heard from FW Davidson for some time now, and I have tried to contact him many times. He has not yet submitted a report, and I have no way to contact him.

We are also discussing changing our working rules to suit us more as a committee, and changes will be noted in the next report.

To Discuss WW2, we called a conference call meeting, where FW Janky Hellface was appointed the chair of the Forum redesign working group. We developed a tentative timeline, with a first draft of the forums being ready by the beginning of September. As the chair, I think that this change has been a long time coming, and I am very happy that we have capable, awesome Wobblies who are going to work on making this happen!

To continue to fund our work, please consider donating to IWW.org.

Just go to IWW.org, and click on the donate button. Your donations make the website possible Fellow Workers!

Walt Weber

Philadelphia IWW Branch Secretary

Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Constitution and Bylaws Maintenance Committee

Pre-General Assembly Report

06/30/08

During the recent quarter, there has been a great deal of debate about what this committee should bring to Assembly. Many important organizational questions were raised, such as the interpretation of our committee's mandate from General Assembly 2007 - most importantly if this is strictly a committee to clean up our governing doctrine, or if we were empowered to alter it. This year, the sections we bring forth are primarily house-cleaning in nature. We deliberated over more than three sections of our Constitution and Bylaws, and the Chair will offer a report to General Assembly and to the G.E.B. with in-depth coverage of our work. Needless to say, there is more to be done on this topic and many of us who served on this important committee are willing to do so next year.

The motions passed by the CBMC are as follows:

1. That the resolution entitled "Finance Committee" be added to the General By-Laws under an appropriate number.
2. Delete repealed General Bylaws Article VIII from further editions of Constitution and re-number succeeding bylaws accordingly.
3. RESOLVED, That the following Article IV be added to the General Constitution, and that succeeding articles be renumbered accordingly:

Article IV - Political Alliances Prohibited

To the end of promoting industrial unity and of securing necessary discipline within the organization, the IWW refuses all alliances, direct or indirect, with any political parties or anti-political organizations, and disclaims responsibility for any individual opinion or act which may be at variance with the purposes herein expressed.

Summary

It is the belief of this committee that we have taken into account the ideas and opinions of our fellow workers so that we may bring forward the most constructive ideas on the floor of General Assembly. Therefore, all IWWs are encouraged to join our Email list and to speak with me directly if they have any questions about the measures proposed for London's General Assembly.

For the One Big Union,

FW Matt Zito

Chair, Constitution and Bylaws Maintenance Committee

galleani@sbcglobal.net

constitution@lists.iww.org

Constitution Committee: Jim Crutchfield, Evan Wolfson, Oliver Lanti, Nate Holdren

Organizing

The Organizer Training Committee

The Organizer Training Committee thanks the Portland GMB for hosting a training for organizing trainers July 5th and 6th. Wobblies in Portland carried out all the many details of hosting an event with great seriousness and effectiveness. It was really impressive to see.

There were Wobblies in town from Seattle, Tacoma, Edmonton, Minneapolis, and Gainesville. The Portland Wobs offered the out of town IWW members great hospitality and did a lot to minimize the headaches of traveling.

Thank you to all the Portland fellow workers for your hard work and dedication, and for being so welcoming.

Solidarity,
Organizer Training Committee

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Discussion

ISC Statement in Support of Gainesville Proposal (Proposal 4: ISC Liaisons)

The International Solidarity Commission strongly supports Proposal 4, the Gainesville GMB's proposal for branch liaisons. Fellow Worker Jason Fults, the author of the proposal, consulted us extensively when writing it. We believe passage of this proposal will be an important step to increasing the ISC's ability to launch timely solidarity actions at the request of our allies, keep informed of IWW members who are traveling to other countries, and keep the membership informed of the ISC's activities and opportunities for participation.

This proposal addresses a real problem: Our international allies often come to us with requests for solidarity at the local level. We do what we can, but we are often hampered by a lack of communication with local branches. When we want to organize a delegation of members to visit another country, or to make members aware of a new resource we have developed, our only gateway to local GMBs are the branch secretaries or other listed contacts, who may be overburdened or not interested in international solidarity. Under the Gainesville plan, branches may elect whoever they find most suitable to be the branch liaison. In some cases this might be the branch secretary, but in many cases it would be another member with an interest in international issues who can take some of the pressure off the branch's other officers.

A couple branches have already chosen to elect ISC representatives on their own initiative, and as a result, these branches have been extraordinarily useful to the work of the ISC. When one of their members is planning to visit another country, they let us know so we can authorize them as a delegate and help them plan meetings with unions there. When we need something from them, we know exactly who to go to. Communication with these branches has been much easier than with other branches. The results are clear to both the branches and to the ISC.

The minimum duties of the liaison—basically just staying in touch with the ISC—are not at all demanding (although liaisons are welcome and encouraged to participate more fully in the ISC). At the same time, the Gainesville proposal is careful not to infringe on branch autonomy. If passed, this resolution will mean that the general membership of the IWW urges all branches to elect liaisons, but it will not be a Constitutional requirement. Any branch that chooses not to participate for whatever reason will not be penalized in any way.

While we realize that this proposal is not a “cure-all” to the ISC's limitations, and that we will need to vigorously follow up with it, we are confident that this is a step in the right direction. The ISC urges members to vote “YES” on Proposal 4, the Gainesville ISC Liaisons resolution.

Sincerely,
Mike Pesa, Saku Pinta, Daniella Jofre
International Solidarity Commission

On The Proposal for Delegate Conventions

Fellow Workers,

Okay so there have been some extremely valid criticisms of this proposal, and some criticisms which I think are not of much concern. My main point is not that this proposal should be judged based on the idea that we can do better than this particular proposal, there is no doubt in my mind we can. Rather it should be judged on whether it is better than the system we have now. To be honest a lot of what I was going to say was covered by the comments of others so I'm gonna try and stick to things he didn't cover.

1. Small Branches. On one hand it is implied that small branches are getting the shaft because with less of a dues base it will be harder for branches to send anyone. On the other hand small branches are getting too much out of the deal because the delegate formula favours small branches over large in the current language.

I think the ratio favouring small branches is a big issue and something that could come back and bite us in the ass down the line. However, I don't think that it cannot be fixed without some more thought at subsequent Assemblies. In other words its not enough to sink the proposal, this is not central to the spirit of the proposal at a future convention this can be fixed. We can either try and amend the branch ratio on the floor or change it next year with a referendum proposal.

2. Representative vs. Direct Democracy. It is asserted the current system is more democratic than the London proposal because anyone can vote at GA. If you can't go yourself you can send a proxy vote to be used at the discretion of an attendee of your liking. Proxies don't even have to be from your branch, I've carried proxies from FWs in Vancouver for example. However there are serious drawbacks too, attendance is much higher from the city at which GA was held. Obviously when GA was held in Edmonton there was obviously a lot of Edmonton people there.

The proposed system is more direct because the people who are sent are sent based on discussions of branch issues and instructions from their branch. Even if these instructions are "vote as you please we trust your judgement" the person still has an obligation to go back to their branch and relate what happened and why they responded as they did. A person who sent themselves and paid their own way has no such obligation. Direct democracy is not about who gets a say but in the responsibility of the delegate to their constituency. In other words it is about accountability to the group.

3. Members that are not in a branch cannot participate. This is a valid concern, but again how is a member with little money to attend convention as opposed to a member without a branch and a lot of money?

Summing up: Our current system is built for a group in a couple of countries that are next to each other to manage their own affairs, unfortunately it is a system we have outgrown.

I think there is a bit of resistance to this because the system is still working well for some particularly those it was made for, unfortunately it is letting others down. We are at a size now where we can't have everyone at the same table talking, as a result we need to move towards having a gathering that is smaller but still accountable. Every flaw that is in the London proposal is also in the current system we just mask it by relying on those with more money to finance themselves.

The only answer in my opinion to have this gathering accountable to their respective branches. We need to build our democracy off of the interests of groups, not individual members. This proposal solves this one problem. It also means we need to introduce more of something that in Edmonton we have practiced for a long time- collective responsibility.

This means that when we work together we try as much as possible to speak as a group, and speak to the positions the group has democratically decided on together. This means in practice that those of us who as individuals have strong opinions have to submit to a larger interest if we are doing something in the name of the group. This can be hard but the alternative is to allow strong individuals to have the group submit to them something that is fundamentally against working class principles.

In Solidarity,
Nick Driedger

Edmonton GMB

In Support of Continued Distribution of the *Industrial Worker*

Fellow Workers,

First off members don't get a complimentary copies of the Industrial Worker, rather union dues includes a subscription to the IW. The same is true in most unions. Next, this would be a major mistake that would do a good deal of harm to our organization. It is not the GEB, the Assemblies, the GOB that connects the membership together, though those things are needed but most members do not pay that much attention to those things. The one thing that does connect all members together is the Industrial Worker.

Our organization has always believed in *Education *Organization *Emancipation, without the IW in the hands of all members Education would suffer and so would Organization.

I have been involved in radical publications since 1969 and the fact is that many people just don't subscribe to publications. With the internet even fewer people subscribe to publications. We would lose many members to the IW if this motion were to pass. What would that mean to the organization? We would lost members because there is no longer anything connecting them to the organization. We would lose the educational value of the IW to many. We would lose solidarity because less people would see the solidarity appeals in the IW. And we would lose a lot of the money that the Literature Department makes because most of the literature sold by them comes from their page in the IW.

(Continued on the next page.)

I am outraged that such a motion would be considered. The Wobblies of the past knew the importance of the IW and even when we had a lot less money we always kept the IW going and sent out to all members. I tried to create discussion on other things we could do to save money, like not having the GEB Winter Meetings but people did not want to give up their perks.

I am a long time member of this organization and a shipyard worker and I strongly appeal to everyone to send e-mails to GEB members requesting that they do not support this harmful motion, below are their e-mail addresses.

For the OBU
Arthur J. Miller
Tacoma, WA

Ship Builders Industrial Union 320-IWW

jkrapaniww@yahoo.com;
nick.durie@googlemail.com;
rocsec@iww.org.uk;
ewolfson@yahoo.com

alexis.iww@gmail.com;
heather@iww.org;
bryanglynroberts@gmail.com;

Bay Area GMB Statement Regarding the Industrial Worker Mailing

This motion was passed at out July 3 Branch Meeting.

Official Statement of the Bay Area GMB:

1. We respect the hard work of the BIROC in building the One Big Union.
2. We respect the long hours that the Philadelphia GMB has put into mailing the Industrial Worker.
3. We feel that the Industrial Worker is an important organizing tool for many branches, and that making sure it is mailed on time is an important GEB responsibility.
4. It has been the policy of the IWW in the past to pay some union members (for example - GHQ) to do work for the union.
5. It is the responsibility of the GEB to find a new branch to do the Industrial Worker mailing, since the Philadelphia GMB has said they no longer wish to do it.
6. Until a new branch is set up to do the mailing, the GEB should pay the Philadelphia branch what it needs to do it.
7. Because the GEB has refused to pay the Philadelphia GMB to do the mailing this month, the SF Bay Area GMB will donate \$100, and also asks that other branches or individuals raise funds.

General Assembly 2008

General Assembly: 30th-31st August, London, United Kingdom

Assembly is just days away. If you have not made plans to attend, I am afraid it is probably too late. Still, you can check out the assembly venue at **Toynbee Hall** at

<http://www.toynbeehall.org.uk/>

If you have already made your plans to attend, and have any last minute changes as to arrival dates, or flight changes, please contact the BI-ROC by e-mailing:

Adam Lincoln

londonwob@yahoo.co.uk

Ant Ince

billybobince@hotmail.com

Reports, Greetings, and Last Minute Business:

Should you, as an officer of the General admin, Committee Chair, or Branch Officer, have any reports, greetings, or last minute business that you want included in the packet of information that will be distributed to all delegates at the Assembly, you must submit them to GHQ no later than August 20th.

E-Mail any reports, greetings, etc. to GST Damron at: mingoslim21@aol.com.

Nominations:

One of the key events at every Assembly is the nominations of officers for the Fall Referendum. For those who can not attend Assembly, GHQ will accept nominations in advance of the Assembly, and will present them on the floor of Assembly. Ideally nominations will be submitted by the 20th, but we will attempt to retrieve e-mailed nominations up until the start of Assembly on August 20th.

E-Mail any nominations to GST Damron at: mingoslim21@aol.com.

If possible, make sure that any nominee is willing to run, and is ELIGIBLE . . . This will save time and effort in the long run. Eligibility requirements vary for different offices, but check your Constitution or with Headquarters if you are unsure.

If the proposed nominee is willing to run, they can e-mail their acceptance as well, and the Assembly will be informed that the nominee has accepted . . .

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General Headquarters

Word from GHQ...

Work at GHQ continues apace. We actually are beginning to accomplish some of the goals we set for ourselves when we first began our work nearly three years ago . . . But there is still much work to be done . . . Both organizing in the field, and in improving our processes at GHQ to serve you better.

Recommendations:

We all know that this year will be a year of transition at GHQ, as I am completing my term as GST.

It is always difficult to move an office, and even if GHQ doesn't move, it is difficult to train new officers and new office staff . . . Having served now for three terms, and having made many, many mistakes, I would like to suggest a few things that might make it easier in the future . . .

- 1) I suggest that when we know a transition is going to take place in the office of GST we should put the new GST on the payroll at least two weeks before January 1st. The GST-Elect should have those two weeks to work in the office, learning the day to day activities of the GHQ. If the GHQ itself is moving to a new city, the union should, of course, pay for travel and lodging.
- 2) The current GST should remain on Payroll for at least a week after the first of the year to help with the move and set up of the new GHQ, if a move is made, and act in an advisory capacity, helping the new GST and office staff to learn the ropes.
- 3) Our computers and other office machines should be properly networked, and adequate for the type of work done at GHQ . . . Database, Financial, as well as layout and design. The budget should include funds for regular servicing and upgrading of systems and software.

For years now we have also been discussing creating an integrated Database and Financial Program; which allows delegates and branches to submit reports electronically, and with approval of the GST for these reports to be input directly into the database. Time for discussion is over . . .

We should also seriously consider adding at least one additional full time staff person to the GHQ Staff. We should be able to set regular office hours at GHQ. We also should seriously consider getting the salary and benefits to the level where they are adequate for future GSTs to be able to support themselves and their families within reason . . .

In Closing:

Assembly is just around the corner . . . I am looking forward to our first Assembly outside of North America, and to visiting with many of our Fellow Workers who up to now have been names on reports, and e-mails. There are some significant proposals to be discussed, and I can only encourage everyone to think long and hard about the road ahead.



Peace Like a River,
In Solidarity,
Mark Damron

Financial Report

Income has exceeded expenses for the last two months, which is a very good thing . . . and looks like, after Literature income is factored in, that we will actually finish FY 2007-2008 in the black.

Dues income for 2007-2008 was over \$96,917.00 . . . A good sign that our membership is growing. Average monthly expenses have risen a bit over the last couple of years from around \$10,500 to \$11,500. At approximately \$10,600 a month, our average monthly income at GHQ still falls about \$1,000 short each month. However, once Literature profits are factored in, we will find that we are in the clear for at least one more year.

I still believe that the union would be better off if we were able to cover our costs based on dues and assessment income alone. This would allow us to bank Literature Income for special projects, or for emergencies. Ultimately, the financial well-being of the OBU lies with each and every member. At this stage, as little as \$1 extra from each member, each month, would have covered any deficit in our monthly spending.

Below you will find financial reports for May and June 2008, rapping up our fiscal year. The full year financial report will be delivered at Assembly, and will appear in the next GOB.

As I reported last month, we have been refining and retooling the Financial Reports at GHQ, with the help of FW Jerry Chernow and the Finance Committee, and I offer my sincerest thanks for all his help.

★	★	★	May 31, 2008	June 30, 2008
ASSETS				
Checking/Savings				
1014 · Fifth Third Bank checking			13,997.60	15,635.74
1015 · Fifth Third Bank Money Market			39,942.11	39,946.82
1030 · Petty Cash			132.49	132.49
Total Checking/Savings			54,072.20	55,715.05
Accounts Receivable				
1200 · GHQ A/R			2,107.46	68.46
Total Accounts Receivable			2,107.46	68.46
Other Current Assets				
1120 · Loan - NY GMB			3,000.00	3,000.00
1130 · Int'l Solidarity Commission			219.35	219.35
1140 · Sato Fund			-60.00	-178.00
1200 · Undeposited Funds			0.00	433.23
Total Other Current Assets			3,159.35	3,474.58
Total Current Assets			59,339.01	59,258.09
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
3000 · Opening Bal Equity			82,772.77	82,772.77
3900 · Retained Earnings			-46,267.90	-46,267.90
Net Income			22,834.14	22,753.22
Total Equity			59,339.01	59,258.09
Total Liabilities and Equity			59,339.01	59,258.09

Profit and Loss

Income/Expense	May 2008	June 2008
Income		
Dues	10,010.50	8,493.45
Misc. & Fundraising Income	769.87	243.66
Assessments	64.00	102.00
Organizing Fund	220.00	44.00
Donations to IWW	348.10	600.00
ISC	498.00	312.00
IW	343.00	598.28
IU 450 Drive	25.00	50.00
Total Income	12,301.47	10,453.39
Expense		
Labor Costs		
Admin Wages	3,025.08	2,832.35
Payroll Taxes	749.85	672.56
Benefits	400.00	400.00
Professional Services	80.50	76.27
Total Labor Costs	4,255.43	3,981.18
Rent and Facilities		
Rent	700.00	700.00
Maintenance	25.00	25.00
Admin phone/fax/email	395.59	0.00
Cellular	107.29	77.26
Utilities	134.69	152.97
Total Rent and Facilities	1,461.58	1,054.24
Office Supplies	171.30	101.30
Bank Charges	2.50	35.16
Postage Accounts		
Admin Postage	428.09	332.58
GOB Postage	0.00	503.97
Total Postage Accounts	428.09	836.55
Copier Lease	2,627.22	828.77
General Assembly	0.00	75.00
Sato Fund	150.00	0.00
Travel	240.87	170.10
General executive Board	0.00	792.16
ISC	300.00	250.00
Organizing Drives	1,430.00	777.00
Lit Expense	614.00	614.00
IW Expense		
IW Mailing Stipend	200.00	0.00
IW Printing	641.00	736.00
IW Postage	913.84	1,003.00
IW Expense - Other	0.00	122.67
Total IW Expense	1,754.84	1861.67
Total Expense	13,445.83	11,377.13
Net Ordinary Income	1,144.36	923.74

Delegate Reports Received

This report shows which delegate reports have come in to General Headquarters since the last GOB was published. The date listed is the date the delegate put on his or her report, most usually the last day they collected dues on the report. The delegate number's prefix (the two-digit number) tells you the year the delegate last cleared his or her credentials.

It is a good idea to check your mailing label on this GOB, where you will find the last dues that Headquarters has recorded for you. If the label doesn't match your membership card, you can look and see if your delegate sent in his or her report. If the report is listed, but the date of the last dues paid on your label isn't correct, please contact Headquarters.

Branch	Date	Delegate	Del#	Init	Max	Reg	Min	Sub	Asst	IW	Org
	03/01	Ron Drouillard	08-1906	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
	03/31	Will Schnak	07-1804	2	0	0	13	0	0	0	0
	05/03	Frederic S. Lee	06-1018	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	06/30	Frederic S. Lee	06-1018	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	06/02	William Albin	08-1925	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
	06/19	Clayton Beverly	07-1610	0	0	0	20	5	0	4	0
	06/28	Stephanie Frizzell	08-1936	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	06/28	Will Schnack	08-1804	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0
	06/29	Seth Dietz	08-1822	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Baltimore	06/24	Josh Keogh	07-1886	3	1	12	8	2	1	0	0
	07/01	Josh Keogh	07-1886	2	0	0	3	0	1	0	0
Bay Area	05/15	Bruce Valde	05-1407	2	5	31	9	2	0	0	0
	06/15	Bruce Valde	05-1407	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0
	06/05	Ted Nebus	05-1573	1	7	0	13	0	1	0	0
	06/09	Ted Nebus	05-1573	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
	06/05	Dirty Face	08-1402	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	06/05	Slava Osowska	06-1778	0	0	4	0	7	2	0	0
	06/05	David Sapinsky	07-1861	0	0	0	8	7	0	0	0
	06/08	Adrienne Naylor	08-2913	1	0	4	7	6	1	4	7
	06/08	Laila Murad	08-1915	0	0	1	0	22	0	0	0
	06/13	Matt Andrews	07-1719	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0
Central Illinois	07/01	Scott A. Murray	08-1929	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	07/07	David Johnson	08-1624	0	0	0	12	0	0	2	0
Chicago	05/04	Joe Tessone	07-1713	3	0	1	9	0	2	0	0
	05/05	Patrick Brenner	08-1776	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	05/07	Jason Krpan	08-1709	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
	05/09	Penny Pixler	07-1682	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
	05/28	Joe Grim Feinberg	08-1879	0	0	11	0	0	5	0	3
	06/01	Jason Krpan	08-1709	0	6	0	12	0	1	0	0
	06/01	Robert Austin	08-1948	0	0	0	3	8	0	0	0
	06/01	Matt Zito	07-1714	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	06/14	Penny Pixler	08-1682	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
	06/15	Gregory Ehrendreich	07-1880	0	1	1	0	8	0	0	0
	06/30	Nate Kemphues	08-1941	0	0	2	23	0	0	0	0
	06/30	Robert Austin	08-1948	1	0	0	4	6	0	0	0
Detroit	05/30	Jim Rehberg	05-1670	0	2	6	3	0	0	0	0
Lancaster	05/09	Bruce Mark Nevin	07-1061	1	0	4	17	0	0	0	1
	06/06	Bruce Mark Nevin	07-1061	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Lane County	05/31	Ed Gunderson	07-1795	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	06/30	Ed Gunderson	07-1795	6	3	7	0	0	0	0	0
Los Angeles	04/27	Daniel Gall	08-1911	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	2
	05/25	Robert Lopez	08-1912	1	0	1	7	0	1	0	0
	05/28	Daniel Gall	08-1911	2	6	6	2	0	1	0	0
	06/08	Tristan Bunner	07-1881	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Milwaukee	06/03	Jenny Peshut	08-1734	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0

Branch	Date	Delegate	Del#	Init	Max	Reg	Min	Sub	Asst	IW	Org
Ohio Valley	05/31	Chris Lytle	08-1771	0	0	8	0	3	0	0	0
Pensacola	06/07	Scott Satterwhite	07-1390	0	0	6	16	9	0	0	0
Philadelphia	06/09	Jon Bekken	07-1034	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	06/09	Walt Weber	07-1901	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	06/29	Walt Weber	07-1901	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
	06/30	Michael Pesa	08-1784	0	0	2	11	0	0	0	0
	07/10	Jon Bekken	07-1034	1	0	8	5	0	0	0	0
Phoenix	05/31	David Natko	08-1927	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
	06/30	Bill Krist	05-1429	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Portland	05/31	Ryan Gaughan	07-1879	0	4	26	9	0	0	0	0
	05/12	Matt Jones	07-1716	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	2
	06/05	Gabriel Triplett	07-1867	1	0	5	0	2	0	0	1
Tacoma	07/07	Patrick Edelbacher	06-1852	0	0	0	15	4	0	0	0
Toronto	05/01	Gordon Flett	08-1496	1	4	12	0	12	0	0	0
	05/08	Paul Bocking	07-1517	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	03/18	Wil Olsen	06-1818	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0
	05/27	Erik Davis	08-1934	0	14	3	0	0	0	0	1
	06/01	Jeff Pilacinski	07-1735	0	3	3	3	0	0	0	0
	06/15	Michael Wilklow	07-1884	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0
	06/19	Erik Davis	08-1934	0	2	2	5	0	0	0	0
	06/24	Maria Athanasselis	07-1909	0	0	3	8	0	2	0	0
	06/24	Jacob Bell	07-1908	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Two Rivers	06/24	Matt May	08-1917	4	3	10	23	0	0	0	0
	06/11	Jay Bostrom	07-1665	3	0	25	12	7	0	0	1
Upstate NY	06/09	Greg Giorgio	08-1027	2	1	0	4	15	5	0	0
	06/30	Rochelle Semel	08-1059	5	2	1	2	0	5	0	0
Vancouver	06/01	Gordon Flett	08-1496	2	1	3	6	6	0	0	0
Washington	01/16	Vallan Anundson	07-1869	9	0	0	24	1	1	3	3
	01/23	Brian McAteer	06-1823	0	0	2	6	0	6	3	0
	06/09	Brian McAteer	06-1823	0	0	0	6	0	3	1	3
Winnipeg	05/16	Patrick McGuire	07-1123	0	4	3	4	0	1	1	0

Delegates At Large

New Mexico: Summer heat is upon us and we are involved in several projects in the Albuquerque area. FW Butler is working on a memorial celebration in honor of FW Utah Phillips with local musicians and poets. Unfortunately, our IU660 shop committee has stopped meeting, and the radical community center we have been using. But we are working on a Labor TV show for cable access, and are interested in networking with any other Wobblies or branches in the southwestern U.S. (Clayton Beverly, June 2008)

Maryland: Currently working with SEIU on various campaigns. Working on developing organizers for the union. (Seth Dietz, June 2008)

Texas: Holding small meetings in Dallas. Leading members have been out of town or had car problems. We are hosting an event on August 31 and decided to host the library at the 1919 Hemphill Radical Community Center. (Will Schnack, June 2008)



Notes From Delegates

Baltimore GMB: Branch recently rented an office and working on organizing a shop. (Josh Keogh, June 2008)

Boston GMB: Collecting dues and working on the harvest campaign. (Laila Murad, June 2008) We had a newspaper article in our neighborhood paper which was largely favorable; passed out copies in front of the store. Unfortunately the NLRB dismissed Deon Furtick's unfair termination claim and Harvest has dug in a fight. We have a Wobbly at another store and are beginning to hold small intro meetings with co-workers. (Matthew R. Andrews, June 2008)

Chicago GMB: Working closely with new Wobblies in my shop to help push through our demands and address workplace grievances. Also signing up members at a new Starbucks location. (Joe Tessone, May 2008) A dozen or more Chicago Wobs took part in the May Day March, while the Couriers Union held their May Day picnic in Union Square. (Penny Pixler, June 2008)

Lane County GMB: Holding bi-monthly meetings. (Ed Gunderson, June 2008)

Ohio Valley GMB: Had a 1-on-1 meeting with a co-worker @ Jimmy John's, discussed various needs of our store and safety concerns. Also obtained copy of a spreadsheet of all employees' pay rates: all make \$7/hr. *except* our GM's best friends, who make \$8. (Chris Lytle, May 2008)

Pensacola GMB: We sent one of our members to the Organizer Training in Gainesville, and are hopeful that there will be future prospects resulting from the training. We were also excited to see FW Anne Feeney during her recent concert in Pensacola, where she spoke quite a bit about the late FW Utah Phillips and the IWW. (Scott Satterwhite, June 2008)

Philadelphia GMB: We continue to meet with couriers and work on organizing in IU540. (Walt Weber, June 2008)

Portland GMB: Helping to reorganize an IWW 650 shop. (Gabriel Triplett, June 2008)

Two Rivers GMB: Will have an IWW booth at the National Folk Festival in Butte, MT on July 11-13, 2008! (Jay Bostrom, June 2008)

Toronto GMB: Branch hosting of organizing summit in mid-April, which included a public forum, meetings, discussions and other events was a great success. Organizing is picking up at a local grocery store, where a workers' organizing committee is beginning to meet regularly. There is also a very promising lead at a local health facility and some action at a bike shop. (Paul Bocking, May 2008)

Upstate New York GMB: Signed up new members in Rochester, already gearing up to charter a branch in the near future. Did our monthly flyer prior to our meeting and planning the next to coincide with CNT-IWW Int'l Day of Action. (Greg Giorgio, June 2008) Met with a group of workers in Rochester along with FW's Giorgio & Poulos. Gave a presentation, showed an IWW film & participated in a question & answer session. The majority of participants signed up and showed great enthusiasm about our Union. We will help them work toward a branch. This was a great organizing experience. (Rochelle Semel, June 2008)

Vancouver GMB: We will be tabling at the Northwest labor History Conference here in June. There will be people from all over Canada, the U.S. and other countries attending. Then there is the Miner's memorial June 27 - 29th in Cumberland, where we will be showing the Mother Jones film on Sunday morning at the Miners' Cafe. (Gordon Flett, June 2008)

Washington, DC GMB: Working with the Baltimore Branch to organize factory workers in Herndon, VA. (Vallan Anundson, January 2008) Recently held picket/demonstration at Starbucks to honor MLK Day. (Brian McAteer, January 2008)

Winnipeg GMB: The branch is in full swing with May Works. We've been busy with movie showings, concerts, marching in the May Day Parade and such over the past week. (Patrick McGuire, May 2008)

Notes and Notices

SOLIDARIDAD! #7

Companer@s!

Solidaridad, the IWW's official international Spanish-language newsletter has just published its seventh issue! Featuring articles on the recent strike by Stockton, California truckers, CNT organizing at Starbucks in Spain, Wobbly organizing for immigrant worker's rights in the US, and IWW activities in Chile. The newsletter is available through GHQ and for downloading at iww.org.

If you have any questions, or would like to get involved, email paulbocking@gmail.com.

Por Solidaridad sin fronteras,

Paul Bocking, Toronto GMB, currently in Mexico City



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