

# MAY 1978

## THIS MONTH

On May first, **International Workers Day**, working people all over the world march and rally to celebrate the long struggle for the right to organize and decent working conditions. See the back page for more on the history of struggle in the US. In addition to the listings in the first week of May, there are some MayDay events on April 30. The Equal Rights Congress is sponsoring a Solidarity Day at Dolores Park in SF, 1-5 pm (285-0660 for info). The Black Panther Party is presenting a program of music and speakers at the Oakland Community Learning Center, 6118 E 14th Street, Oak, noon to 6 pm.

**Cinco de Mayo** (Mexican Independence Day) is an important people's holiday in the United States. May 5, 1862, was the date of the battle of Puebla in which the Mexican people, poorly armed but determined, won independence from the French Army. Today Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of the history and culture of Latino people, especially the struggles of Chicano/Mexicano people in the United States. See listings for a march and rally in Berkeley and all-day programs at Laney.

**African Liberation Day**, May 21, is a day of solidarity with the peoples of Africa. This day has been observed by thousands of people in the US since 1972. Throughout this month (especially around the 21st), there are films and talks about Africa. See the May 20 listing for an event sponsored by the National Coalition to Support African Liberation.

May 18 there will be a memorial concert at the Berkeley Community Theater honoring the life of activist and prolific singer/songwriter **Malvina Reynolds**. Join in this celebration of her life and music.

**MON 1 Cuban Film Festival**, One Way or Another & Okantomi, 5 pm; *Cantata de Chile*, 7 pm; *The Teacher*, 9:15 pm; at the Stage Door Theater, 420 Mason, SF; 5 pm show \$2, evening shows \$3 each.

**Gray Panther General Meeting**, 1125 University, Berk, 3-5 pm.

**Celebration of International Workers Day**, song festival with Leny Anderson, Jaimee Steele, Bay Area Progressive Musicians, Faith Petric and many others, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, free. Peña raffle drawing and auction, also.

**Mayday program** from noon to 11 pm on KPFA radio, 94fm.

**The Bakke Decision**, discussion of "reverse" discrimination and special admissions, 8:30 pm, on KQED-TV channel 32.

1886: *Workers martyred in Chicago during 340,000-strong strike for eight-hour day. Lives commemorated with celebration of International Workers Day.*

1830: "Mother" *Mary Jones born—famous trade union organizer and IWW leader.*

**TUE 2 Cuban Film Festival**, Lucia, 6:15 pm; *Cantata de Chile*, 9:30 pm; at the Stage Door Theater, 420 Mason, SF, \$3 each show.

**The Battle of Algiers**, film about the Algerian rebellion against the French in 1954-57. Peña film series, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, \$2, series tickets for May \$7.50.

**Interview with Dennis Banks**, report on congressional moves to revise Native American treaty rights and Native Americans' struggles against these revisions, 7:30 pm, KQED-TV, channel 9.

**What Happened to the Black Movement?** A look at the Black movement in the '60s and where it is now, with Angela Davis, Ron Karenga, Dick Gregory & Emily Gibson, noon, on radio KPFA, 94fm.

**Live Jazz** from part of the Blue Dolphin collective, 3 pm, radio KPFA, 94fm.

1968: *Black auto workers lead wildcat strike in Detroit.*

**WED 3 The Bakke Decision and the Workplace**, by the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition, an evening program, 7 pm, at the Fruitvale School, 3200 Boston, Oakland.

**Lucia**, film benefit for the World Youth Festival, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 7:30 pm, \$2 donation.

**Fundraising Basketball Game**, Laney College Veterans Club & BSU vs AC Transit bus drivers, benefit for the childcare center at Laney, in the Laney College Gym, 900 Fallon, Oak (across from the Lake Merritt BART), 8 pm, \$1; after-game party at Uppy's on the Square, 131 Broadway, Oak, for more info 834-5740.

**Cuban Film Festival**, *Angola: Victory of Hope & Spear of the Nation*, 5 pm; *The Teacher*, 7:15 pm; *Days of Water*, 9:30 pm; at the Stage Door Theater, 420 Mason, SF; 5 pm show \$2, evening shows \$3 each.

**Land of Immigrants: The Unwanted Ones**, program produced by the Media Alliance on immigrant policies & practices of the US, 8:30 pm, KQED TV channel 32.

1968: *The May '68 movement begins in France. Culminates in general workers' strike which spreads throughout the country.*

1926: *General strike begins in Great Britain.*

**THU 4 Cuban Film Festival**, *The Teacher*, 5 pm; *Days of Water*, 7:30 pm; *One Way or Another & Okantomi*, 9:30 pm; at the Stage Door Theater, 420 Mason, SF; 5 pm show \$2, evening shows \$3 each.

**Pan Eger**, steel drums from the West Indies, La Peña concert, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley, 9 pm, \$2.

**Celebrate May Day**, at the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, with dinner and film *Salt of the Earth*, \$2.50, 6 pm, sponsored by the May Day 1978 Committee.

**Oakland Feminist Women's Health Center**, at 2930 McClure, Oak, will hold a Self-Help group, health education program, continues for three more Thursdays, from 7 to 9 pm, donation, can bring children, for more info 444-5676.

**Women in the Middle Years**, sponsored by the Berkeley Women's Health Collective, a discussion of menopause, estrogen therapy, hysterectomy, sexuality, and the effects of the youth-oriented society, at 2908 Ellsworth, Berk, 7:30 pm, donation, for more info 843-1437.

**How to Write Your Own Will**, Pro Per Collective workshop, 1606 Bonita, Berk, upstairs, 7:30 pm, no fees, donations appreciated, for more info 849-4512.

1886: *Haymarket bombing in Chicago in which eight labor leaders are framed.*

**FRI 5 Cinco de Mayo at Laney**, sponsored by the Peralta Community College District, Oakland Public Schools & Concilio de Organizaciones Latinoamericanas de Oakland, afternoon program in Oakland Auditorium Theater, 12 noon; Pete & Sheila Escovedo, Bacchanal, Gibby Ross, Ballet Folklórico Latinoamericano, & more; night program at Laney College Theater; Lucha y Paz, Pete & Sheila Escovedo, Gibby Ross, Natural 5 & many more; also a program at the Oakland Auditorium sponsored by the Concilio, featuring mariachi, Grupo folklórico, & Mexican singers, Laney College, 900 Fallon, Oak, for more info 835-5250, or 834-5740 x397.

**Cinco de Mayo March and Fiesta**, speakers, music and food at Provo Park (Grove and Allison), Berk, march starts in Kenney Park (8th and Delaware, Berk), at 11 am.

**Size Bansi is Dead**, play about South Africa, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9 pm, \$2.50.

**The Mass Socialist Left: a Look at the Northern California Alliance**, Jim Schoch, former NCA member, will speak on splits around class, leadership, Marxism-Leninism, strategy, etc, sponsored by the East Bay Socialist School, 6025 Shattuck, Oak, 8 pm, \$1 donation, childcare provided.

1818: *Karl Marx is born.*

1862: *Cinco de Mayo, Mexican Day of Independence.*

1931: *National Miners Union strike in Kentucky in which four miners are killed.*

**SAT 6 Night of Solidarity with the Iranian Peoples**, sponsored by the Iranian Students Association in Northern California, speaker & cultural presentation, at Benjamin Franklin Jr High, 1430 Scott (Scott & Geary), SF, 7:30 pm, \$1.50 donation, childcare provided, for more info 848-3372.

**Size Bansi is Dead**, play about South Africa, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9 pm, \$2.50.

**Fru Fru and Professor Correct**, afternoon children's program at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, for more info 849-2568.

**If Everyone Had a Baby**, play performed by the Moving Men Theater Co to benefit the Childcare Switchboard, at Horace Mann Jr High, 3351 23rd Street (Bartlett & Valencia), SF, 8:30 pm, \$3 donation, for info & childcare call 282-7858.

**Women's Job Searching Workshop**, 12 noon to 5 pm, donation, at Pacific Center, 2329 San Pablo, Berk, donation, women only, childcare upon request.

1626: *Peter Minuit bought Manhattan from Indians for trinkets worth \$24.*

1882: *Chinese Exclusion Act passed, forbidding Chinese to become citizens. It was the first US law to restrict immigration of an entire nationality.*

1937: *400 Black women lead Tobacco Workers Union strike.*

**SUN 7 An Evening of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**, an educational event, with speakers, slide show and a cultural presentation, by the Ad Hoc Coalition to Commemorate Solidarity Day with Palestine, at the Mission Neighborhood Center, 362 Capp, SF, 7:30 pm, \$2, childcare provided, food & drink.

**Films on Women Artists**, *Dorothea Lange and The Life and Death of Frida Kahlo*, to benefit the Women's Building in SF, at the Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street (at Valencia), SF, noon, \$2, for more info 863-1087.

**Las Calaveras de Posada**, satire about Mexican history by Los Mascarones, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8:30 pm, \$2.50.

**Lesbian Rights Workshop** w/Donna Hitchins, sponsored by Pacific Center, 7:30 pm, at 2329 San Pablo, Berk, childcare upon request, women only.

**MON 8 Immigrants & Allens**, dramatization of deportation hearings and the visa petition process followed by a panel discussion with attorneys from Neighborhood Legal Assistance, 8:30 pm, KQED TV channel 32.

1929: *Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized.*

**TUE 9 Homeboys and Little Boy**, premiere showings of two films about life in the Sunbelt, at the Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street (at Valencia), SF, 7 & 9 pm, \$2.50, for more info 863-1087.

**The Bicycle Thief**, La Peña film series, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, \$2, series ticket for May \$7.50.

**How to Do Your Own Uncontested Divorce**, ProPer Collective workshop, at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University, Berk, 3:30 pm, no fees, donations appreciated, for more info 849-4512.

1972: *Beginning of 21 month-long Farah pants strike. Strike involved thousands of predominantly Chicana workers, sparked broad nationwide support.*

1934: *15,000 longshoremen strike on West and Gulfcoasts.*

**WED 10 The Politics of Reproductive Rights**, a discussion of what reproductive rights are and how they are related to the general political climate; the Committee to Defend Reproductive Rights and plans to mobilize to fight the November anti-abortion initiative, at the Berkeley Women's Center, 2112 Channing, Berk, 7:30 pm, donation, for more info 849-4512.

**I Was, I Am, I Will Be**, benefit for AISC and OPRICH, film documentary about political prisoners in Chile, speakers also, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 7:30 & 9:30 pm, \$2 donation.

**A Weapon in the Hands of the People**, political poster show by the SF Poster Brigade, free, 8 pm, at the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF.

**Discussion with Donald Woods**, exiled South African editor, about conditions in South Africa and what US policy should be, 7:30 pm, KQED TV channel 32.

**Viva La Causa**, Marina Garcia singing about the struggles of farmworkers, 8:30 pm, on KQED TV channel 32.

1869: *Transcontinental Railroad completed, 3,000 Irish workers constructed the Eastern part, while 10,000 Chinese worked on the Western section, tunneling through the Rockies.*

1898: *Canadian and US trade unionists form Western Labor Union.*

1928: *Chicano canteloupe workers strike in the Imperial Valley. Strike declared illegal and workers threatened with deportation to Mexico.*

**THU 11 Barbara Dane**, political songs, Peña concert, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8:30 pm, \$3.

**The African People's Solidarity Committee** presents the music of Gwen Avery, and slide show by the SF State Ethnic Studies Dept on *Ancient Egypt. History from an African Perspective & What It Means for Today's Liberation Struggles*, 8 pm, at the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, Donation: \$2.

**Radio Liberation Eritrea**, benefit to construct a radio station in the liberated area, sponsored by the Radio Liberation Eritrea Coalition, speeches, slide show & cultural presentation, APU-MEC Hall, Oak, 7:30 pm, donation.

**Cangaceiro**, a film written and directed by Lima Barreto, was the first Brazilian film to be released in the US, 7-10 pm, at Laney College Room D-200, 900 Fallon Oak.

**Maedchen in Uniform**, cooperatively made anti-fascist film (Germany, 1931), sponsored by Insight Exchange, People's Translation Service, & UC Berkeley Women's Center, film followed by speaker & discussion, UC Berkeley campus, Life Sciences Bldg, room 2000, 7 & 9:30 pm, \$2.

**Collecting Unemployment**, ProPer Law Collective workshop, 1606 Bonita, Berk, upstairs, 7:30 pm, no fees, donations appreciated, for more info 849-4512.

1894: *Pullman strike begins in Illinois. Railroad workers strike in solidarity with Pullman car workers and against long hours and pay cuts. Federal troops are called out to break the strike.*

**FRI 12 Stop the Esmeralda!** The Chilean dictatorship torture ship will be in the SF Bay to participate in US Armed Forces Week. **Demonstration:** 12 noon at the Chilean consulate, 820 Market, SF, Contact NICH, 548-3221, or N Cal Chile Coordinating Committee, 433-6698.

**"Cries for Survival: A People's Forum on World Population"**, sponsored by Committee to Defend Reproductive Rights & Sterilization and Informed Consent Right; program panel: Angela Davis, Ella Hutch, Rahemah Annu, Laura Rodriguez & Esther Talavera, at YWCA (Western Addition Ctr), 1830 Sutter, SF, 7:30-9:30, \$2, childcare provided.

**Pickle Family Circus**, benefit for Bananas at Martin Luther King Jr High Field (Hopkins below Grove), Berkeley, 2:30 pm, advance: \$1; kids & seniors, \$2.50; others at the door: \$1.50 kids & seniors, \$3 others. For more info 548-4344.

1902: *Anthraxite coal strike. 140,000 coal miners strike for nine-hour day.*

**SAT 13 West Coast Anti-Bakke Mobilization**, sponsored by the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition, SF, March: 10 am, assemble Garfield Park, 25th and Harrison; rally: 1 pm, Federal Bldg, 450 Golden Gate Ave, SF.

**Samba and Bossa Jazz** from Brazil, Peña fiesta, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9:30 pm, \$3.

**Frances Baruch** (who used to be the voice of Bugs Bunny) dramatizing stories and songs, afternoon children's program at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, for more info 849-2568.

**SUN 14 The First Oakland Multi-Cultural Arts Parade & Festival**, sponsored by the Ad Hoc Coalition of Oakland CETA artists, noon at the Lake Merritt BART station in Oak, a free event, with parades, music, dance, juggling, concluding with a festival of performing artists.

**Barbara Dane** in concert to benefit the *Guardian*. "Some say you can't make a revolution with songs. I say you can't make a revolution without them!" at the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, 8 pm, \$3.

**Pickle Family Circus**, see May 12 listing.

**William King**, performing flamenco and classical Spanish guitar, Peña concert, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley, 8:30 pm, \$2.

**TUE 16 Immigration Laws and Policies**, ProPer Collective workshop, at South Berkeley Library, 1901 Russell, Berk, 3:30 pm, no fees, donations appreciated, for more info 849-4512.

**Two Women**, story of survival in WWII, Peña film series, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, \$2.

**WED 17 Benefit for AIM** (American Indian Movement), report from the Long March and music, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, \$2 donation.

**The Case of Geronimo Pratt**, interview with Geronimo Pratt taped in San Quentin. He discusses his own history and the human rights struggle in American prisons, 8:30 pm, on KQED TV channel 32.

1954: *US Supreme Court rules segregated schools unconstitutional.*

**THU 18 A Musical Celebration with Friends of Malvina Reynolds**. Friends of Malvina Reynolds are coming together at the Berkeley Community Theater, for a musical tribute to the life of the 77-year-old songwriter, who died March 17. Pete Seeger, Steve Goodman, Country Joe McDonald, and many more who have worked with Malvina will appear, \$4, 8 pm, childcare provided, broadcast live on KPFA 94fm.

**El Chacal de Nahualtoro**, film produced during Allende's presidency in Chile, the story of the transformation of a peasant, Latin American Film Series, Laney College, 900 Fallon, Oak, A-266, 7 pm, free, for more info 835-5250.

**Special program devoted to Malvina Reynolds**, noon, on radio KPFA, 94fm.

1970: *Supreme Court orders Wheaton Glass Co of NJ to pay more than \$250,000 in back wages to women.*

**FRI 19 Grupo '76**, on tour from Mexico with the music of Cuba, Peña concert, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8:30 pm, \$2.50.

**Birthday Celebration of Malcolm X and Ho Chi Minh**: films: *79 Springtime of Ho*, and *Malcolm X shorts*; with celebrations and music at large, 8 pm, at People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, \$1.75 donation.

**Tribute to Malcolm X**, 1 am, on radio KPFA 94fm.

1850: *Four thousand Chicano miners in Sonora, California, gather to protest the impending Foreign Miners' Tax, designed to drive them out of the gold fields during the California gold rush.*

1890: *Ho Chi Minh born.*

1925: *Malcolm X born.*

**SAT 20 African Liberation Day**, sponsored by the National Coalition to Support African Liberation, with bands: Family Nitoto, UC Berkeley African Music and Dance Ensemble, Hedzole Soundz; speakers: Ron Dellums, Selby Semela, African Liberation Support Committee and others; play: *Size Bansi is Dead*; booths and refreshments, at San Antonio Park, 10th Avenue and Foothill, East Oakland, 16 am to 5 pm, for more info 834-5767.

**Galbino Palomares**, foremost composer & interpreter of the New Song Movement in Mexico, Peña concert, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9 pm, \$2.50.

**Afro-Caribbean Dance Workshop** for children, by Cornell with slides, instruments and participation, afternoon children's program at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, for more info 849-2568.

**Radical History Conference**, by Radical History Network, discussion on third world, women, local and regional history, starts at 9:30—all day, 155 Dwinelle Hall, UC Berk, childcare provided.

1862: *US Congress passes the Homestead Act granting 140 acres of Western Indian land to settlers at \$1.25 an acre.*

1920: *Bloody repression of the workers in Punta Arenas, Chile.*

1933: *9000 rubber workers strike in Akron, Ohio.*

**SUN 21 Behind the Front Lines: Africa and the Mid-East**, 2 representatives of the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee just returned from abroad will report on talks with representatives of revolutionary organizations in Africa, Europe and the Mid-East, also a film, *Revolution in Eritrea*, at Washington Elementary School, McKinley & Bancroft, Berk, 1:30 pm, \$2 donation, childcare provided.

**Maidenhair Truth and Comedy Theater**, skits about the sexism and antagonism that pervade this society, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 3 pm, \$2.

**Benefit for Wendy Yoshimura**, sponsored by the Women Writers Union, music by Bamboo; poetry by Sukey Durham, Genny Lim, Nellie Wong; Wendy Yoshimura will speak, 8:30 pm, \$2.50 donation, childcare: 834-9776.

**Attica**, film benefit for the Dessie Woods Support Coalition. This film is a dramatic investigation of the 1971 prisoner rebellion & ensuing attack by the state at Attica State Prison in New York, at the Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street, SF (at Valencia), 1 pm, for more info 863-1087.

**Women Against Violence in Pornography & the Media** Slideshow presentation, \$1.50 donation, at the Pacific Center, 2329 San Pablo, Berk, childcare upon request.

**TUE 23 O Povo Organizado**, part of the OCLC film series sponsored by the East Oakland Information Project and the Experimental College of Laney College, showing at the Oakland Community Learning Center, 6118 E 14th Street, Oak, for more info 562-5261.

**Bitter Rice**, Italian neo-realist film focusing on women working in the rice fields, Peña film series, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, \$2.

**Basic SSI—Social Security & Disability Insurance**, ProPer Collective workshop, at the South Berkeley Library, 1901 Russell, Berk, 3:30 pm, no fees, donations appreciated, for more info 849-4512.

1934: *"Battle of Toledo" takes place. 10,000 strikers at Auto-Life and unemployed workers picketing in solidarity with them and fighting 12 hours with police, drive them off.*

**WED 24 The Roots of the Moro People's Struggle in the Southern Philippines**, sponsored by the International Association of Filipino Patriots, slide show and discussion on the MNLF and their fight for autonomy, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 7:30 pm, \$1.50 donation, for more info 482-3400 or 829-2038.

**Public meeting of the East Bay Anti-Nuclear Grop**, film: *More Nuclear Power Stations*, speaker: Howard Kohn from *Rolling Stone* on Karen Silkwood and nuclear spying, at the Friends Meetinghouse, Walnut and Vine, Berk, 8 pm.

**A Potluck Dinner and Discussion**, sponsored by Community Concerns Task Force & Berkeley Area Interfaith Council, "What's Religion Doing for Berkeley?" at the Ephesian Church of God in Christ, 1709 Alcatraz, Berk, 6:30 pm.

**Malcolm X and Brothers**, two films on the Black struggle, at the Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street (at Valencia), SF, 4:45 & 8:20 pm, \$2.50, for more info 863-1087.

**THU 25 Malcolm X and Brothers**, see May 24. *Malcolm*: 8:20 pm; *Brothers*: 6:30 & 10 pm.

**Emital**, African film by Ousmane Sembene, about the oppression & resistance of a Diola tribe in Senegal during WWII, speakers from the Southern Africa Solidarity Committee, sponsored by Insight Exchange, People's Translation Service & UC Berkeley Women's Center, at the UC Berkeley campus, Life Sciences Bldg, room 2000, 7 & 9:30 pm, \$2.

**Atencingo**, film about a Mexican collective farm combating North American monopolies, Latin American Film Series, Laney College, 900 Fallon, Oak, A-266, 7 pm, free, for more info 835-5250.

**Grupo Viento Sels**, a musical group from Mexico, singing new songs of Cuba and Latin America, will be presented by the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, at 8 pm, \$2.50 donation.

**Italy Today**, a program produced by the Committee for a Democratic Policy Toward Italy, music by Cabzonjers del Sol, traditional Italian political folk music; speakers on the current political social economic situation & the history of US intervention; slides, 8 pm, \$1.50 donation, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk.

**Landlord/Tenant Problems and Resolutions**, ProPer Legal Collective workshop, 1606 Bonita, Berk, upstairs, 7:30 pm, no fees, donations appreciated, for more info 849-4512.

**FRI 26 Benefit for Lesbian Schoolworkers**, *Loving Women*, new show by Mother Tongue Readers Theater, and a short piece by the Whole Works, Berkeley Unitarian Church, Cedar & Bonita, Berk, 8:30 pm, donation \$2-\$4, childcare available.

**A Night of Solidarity with the Eritrean Revolution**, at the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, with a new film and cultural presentation, 8 pm, \$2.

**Una Pena de Peru**, Peruvian popular & folkloric music sung by Rebeca, Peruvian food in Cocina de Los Andes, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9 pm, \$2.50.

1894: *Miners strike for eight-hour day in Cripple Creek, Colorado.*

1937: *100,000 steel workers and miners strike.*

**SAT 27 Salsa Alacran**, Peña fiesta, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9:30 pm, \$3.

**Afro-Caribbean Dance Workshop** for children by Cornell, with slides, instruments, and participation, afternoon children's program at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, for more info 849-2568.

**SUN 28 Pena International**, informal evening of music with Latin American cultural workers, everybody's participation welcome, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8:30 pm, \$1 includes glass of wine.

**TUE 30 The Hawks and the Sparrows**, political critique on film of Italy by Pier Paolo Pasolini, Peña Film Series, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, \$2.

1937: *Memorial Day Massacre in Chicago. Striking steelworkers, demanding union recognition, attacked by 500 police as they picket Republic Steel plant. Ten workers killed, scores wounded. This event marks the beginning of the effort to organize "Little Steel."*

**WED 31 Inside North Vietnam**, a film of the Vietnamese people during the days of the US bombings, room D-200, 7-10 pm, Laney College, 900 Fallon, Oak, free.

**Benefit for National Land for the People**, music, film, and speakers, La tierra pertenece al que trabaja, support small farmers against giant agribusiness, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 8 pm, \$2.50 donation.

**Educational Forum on Zimbabwe**, presented by ZANU, at the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, at 7:30 pm, free.

**Leadbelly**, film about the legendary blues composer-singer, Black Cinema, at the Laney College Theater, 900 Fallon, Oak, 7 pm, free, for more info 835-5250.

1920: *The trial of Sacco and Vanzetti on trumped-up charges of robbery and murder. This was exposed as a politically motivated government attack against both the labor movement and the democratic rights of "aliens." Sacco and Vanzetti were both Italian immigrants active in the workers' movement. The case dragged on for seven years while an international movement unfolded to demand their release. However, reactionary forces finally succeeded in executing Sacco and Vanzetti.*

The value of the **Community Calendar** as a tool in supporting struggles for social change depends on your organization's participation. The 5000 Calendars distributed throughout the East Bay at over 100 community locations can help publicize your group's activities. Listings in the Calendar are free. We are especially interested in listing political and cultural events which advance the struggles of all working people for democratic and human rights, for independent political power, and against the racism and sexism which keeps people divided. We list events which will be of interest to either a wide range of people or a specific community. We will list events outside the East Bay locale if they are directed to a Bay Area audience and aren't otherwise available to East Bay people. We are open to suggestions about the criteria for accepting listings. If you are in doubt, please send us your information anyway. Be sure to submit all listings by mail before the deadline: the 21st of each month.

# INTERNATIONAL WORKERS DAY



"I BELONG TO A CLASS WHO HAVE BEEN ROBBED, EXPLOITED, AND PLUNDERED DOWN THROUGH MANY LONG CENTURIES, AND BECAUSE I BELONG TO THAT CLASS I HAVE AN INSTINCT TO GO AND BREAK THE CHAINS!"  
**MARY MOTHER JONES**  
 LABOR ORGANIZER, 1830-1930  
 S.F. Poster Brigade

## MAYDAY 1886

MayDay is International Workers Day. This holiday is celebrated around the world marking the past victories of the working class and the struggles yet to come. Yet in this country, where MayDay originated in the mass actions of workers for the eight-hour day, the significance of this date has been suppressed. We have been robbed of our militant history. Instead, Congress created an apolitical holiday—Labor Day—as a token acknowledgment of working people. Contributing to the coverup, Nixon designated May 1 as "Law Day" in honor of our system of "justice." What stake do US working people have in commemorating MayDay?

## The Fight for the Eight-Hour Day

On May 1, 1886, the eight-hour day movement reached a peak, as 350,000 workers across the country held strikes and demonstrations for eight hours work with no loss in pay. In the days of the robber barons, when the fortunes of the Rockefellers, Carnegies, Morgans and Duponts were being built, working people faced up to 18-hour workdays, survival wages, and deadly working conditions. Immigrants and children were used as cheap labor to keep wages down. There were no legal rights to organize or strike.

In response to these intolerable conditions, a General Strike was called by many rank-and-file workers' organizations. The movement grew rapidly. In March and April, preparations were begun. Mass rallies were held in major cities, and armed self-defense brigades were organized in many locales.

When May 1 arrived, tensions were high. In Chicago, the heart of the eight-hour movement, picketers stopped scabs at the McCormack plant and were fired on by police, killing four workers. To protest this brutality, an evening rally was called in Haymarket Square. Just as the peaceful rally was ending, 180 police marched in the break up the crowd. Suddenly, a dynamite bomb exploded, killing one police officer. The police fired into the crowd, also killing one.

The "Haymarket Riot" was used by the press to create anti-worker sentiment across the nation. The bombing was blamed on anarchists, and many workers were subjected to raids and arrests. Ultimately, four workers were hanged on little or no evidence. Having met with fierce repression from the national guard in the wake of media-inspired hysteria, the eight-hour movement was temporarily broken.

But some 40,000 workees had won the eight-hour day, and 150,000 more gained shorter hours. Three years later, in 1889, at an international socialist conference in Europe, May 1 was declared a holiday in honor of US workers' contributions to the struggle of the international working class. MayDay 1886 was the spark that helped spread the movement for decent working conditions and the basic right of all workers to organize. Interracial solidarity reached a peak in the eight-hour movement, with Black and white laborers marching in large MayDay parades in many cities.

## Rebellion & Repression

The 1890s saw many bitter battles waged as an economic bust hit the monopolies. In the Homestead Strike near Pittsburgh, steelworkers fought the Carnegie steel trust (now US Steel) and its private army of Pinkerton strike-breakers and seized the mills. In 1894 the famous Pullman Strike in the company town of Pullman, near Chicago,

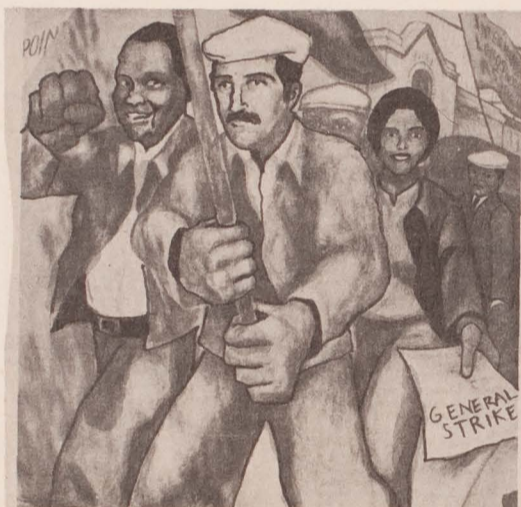
was led by socialist Eugene V. Debs. It spread to a nationwide railway strike and 10,000 troops and militia in 20 states were called out to crush the strike. In 1903, miners in Cripple Creek, Colorado struck for \$3 pay and an eight-hour day. The territory was occupied by the militia, martial law declared, and legal rights "suspended." The Ludlow Massacre of miners, and their families, ten years later in Rockefeller's mines reflected the open violence and repression directed against the working class.

Workers continued to make gains, however. Women added their strength to the movement for decent working conditions. Women workers were first organized on a mass scale in the garment industry. Women in the sweatshops of New York City in particular, many of whom were immigrants, joined together against child labor, for safe working conditions, the eight-hour day, and women's suffrage.

## Workers Get Organized

In the '30s, in the midst of the hard times imposed on the whole working class by the Wall Street Crash, great strides were made. The CIO (Congress of Industrial Organizations) brought unions to basic industries for the first time. Sparked by communist organizers and with tactics such as the sit-down strike, workers in auto, rubber, textiles, oil, meatpacking—all helped to bring the right to organize into law with the NLRA (National Labor Relations Act). MayDay was an important focus for organizing during this active era.

With the organized labor movement at its peak in membership and strength after WWII, measures were again taken to weaken workers' growing power. The 1947 Taft-Hartley Act strengthened the Federal government's authority to break strikes, issue injunctions and undermine unions with the "open (scab) shop." A campaign of red-baiting took much of the fight out of the unions. It was not till the '60s that activism again pushed forward the rank-and-file struggles of workers, spurred on by the mass movements of minorities and women.



detail from OUR HISTORY IS NO MYSTERY S.F. Mural



L.N.S.

## MAYDAY 1978

Today we commemorate the sweat and blood given to win the eight-hour day and the right to organize. But we must also take up the struggle to improve working conditions and defend the right to organize. Workers face a wide-scale union-busting campaign by government and the corporations. We also face day-to-day conditions of speed-up, forced overtime, increasing safety and health hazards, wage cuts and layoffs. 81% of the US workforce is unorganized, and real wages are at the lowest level in ten years. Government reports show economic "improvement" as productivity increased in 1977 by 4% per worker, yet workers' purchasing power went up .5%.

Serious injury on the job strikes one of every ten workers each year. In the construction industry, the largest single trade, the chances are one in five. Only mining is more dangerous. In the auto industry, 65 workers die on the job every day—half from heart attacks. About 2,500 agricultural workers are killed in work accidents. US workers suffer over 14,000 deaths from industrial accidents, 2,100,000 disabilities, and 1,000,000 cases of new industrial disease each year, not counting untold long-term effects of stress, toxic substances, and pollution.

Recent legal rulings have cut into workers' hard-won protections. An OSHA regulation that gave workers the right to refuse a job that might cause serious injury or death has been ruled invalid. The Supreme Court has ruled that denial of disability benefits to women workers who are pregnant is not discriminatory. This is a severe blow to 45% of the workforce—women—80% of whom will become pregnant at some time, and who often support families both on the job and at home.

A new proposed federal criminal code, if passed, will be the most repressive measure against workers since Taft-Hartley. Senate Bill 1437 passed the Senate and is now up for vote in the House as HR 6869. It would make workers who strike liable to charges of "extortion" for placing an employer "in fear" that his "property will be damaged," or charges of "blackmail" for subjecting "any person to economic loss or injury to his business" or to "hatred, contempt, or ridicule." In short, almost anyone who goes on strike might end up in jail under this "new" Nixon-inspired law. Carter's Labor Law Reform Act, which passed the House and is up for vote in the Senate, also puts more restrictions on the right to strike. It prohibits all "wildcat" strikes, and prohibits picketing by friends, family, and other persons in solidarity with striking workers.

## Union-Busting Campaign

A major union-busting campaign has been launched by top brass, with a national "right to work" committee, consulting firms, management seminars, and lobbying. They have targeted five midwestern states to push for "open shop" legislation and help break key strikes. Targets of such union-busting tactics include the Coors strike in Colorado, the Iowa Beef packinghouse strike, and the Essex UAW strike in Indiana. Workers at these plants have been courageous in their efforts to hold the line against "take away" contract offers, court injunctions, and police violence against pickets, and scab labor imported to maintain production and then vote in "de-certification elections" ousting the union. Even the United Mine Workers, however, with the longest strike in history and militant rank-and-file solidarity, was unable to hold on to important health and safety benefits.



Berkeley Barb

## The Workers Movement Today

In 1978 workers will have to learn from the history of the workers' movement in order to defeat this latest assault on working conditions and organizing rights. Workers are meeting this challenge, and gains are being made. Organizing and unionization is increasing among women and minority workers especially, in areas that have been previously non-union—light industry, agriculture, office and service work, and in the South and West.

The JP Stevens organizing drive, against an "open shop" company notorious for racism and hazardous working conditions, is gaining in strength after 14 years of struggle. Here in Oakland, militant Blue Cross workers, mostly women and minorities, were finally successful in gaining the basic right to be represented by a union. And Local #5 of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers union was able to expose and stop the use of toxic DBCP chemicals in workplaces around the country. In basic industries, rank-and-file organizations are fighting around such issues as speedup and the 30-hour week among autoworkers, health and safety and union democracy in the teamsters, and the right to strike among steelworkers and miners.

As we can see, the eight-hour day and right to strike have been won, but the movement to protect and extend those rights is continuing today. MayDay is a time to reflect and renew our commitment to the makers of history—the working class.

This calendar is a project of Inkworks Press, a printing and publishing collective. The production and editorial work group is composed of some people from Inkworks and others active in East Bay community and political work. The calendar began in March, 1976. Our goal is to publicize the political and cultural struggles for radical social change in our area.

### We need your help!

- First, we want your reactions to and suggestions about the calendar. We can also use help with production and distribution. If you can distribute the calendar at your workplace or in your neighborhood, drop by early in the month.
- Secondly, please send us info about events you would like to see listed, by the 21st of each month! Be sure to include the name of the event, sponsor, program, date, time, place, price, childcare arrangements and accessibility to wheelchairs. We urge you to submit listings by mail since we are busy operating a printshop weekdays. Our address is Community Calendar, care of Inkworks, 4220 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94609. If you need to contact us by phone for other information, call 652-7111.

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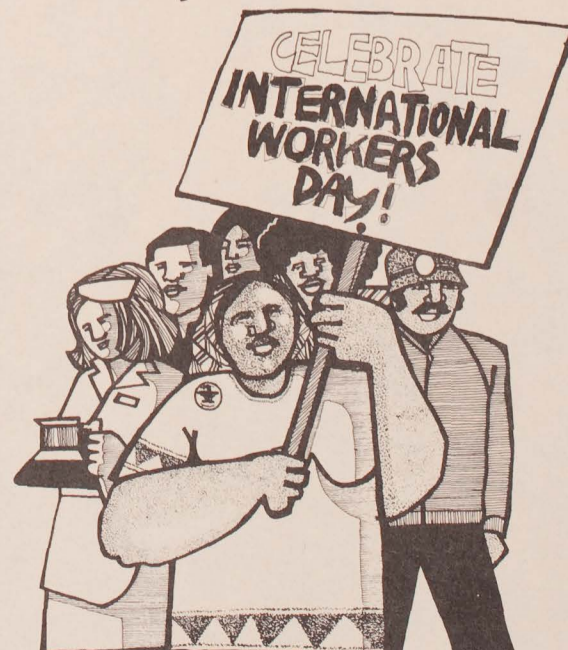
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