

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Study Group on International Labor and Working Class History will hold its annual session and business meeting at the convention of the American Historical Association on Friday, December 28, 1979, from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. The room number will be announced in the convention program. The session will take the form of a round-table discussion of problems in the study of the social history of advanced capitalist societies. Discussants include Tim Mason (Oxford University), Alex Keyssar (Brandeis University), Mary Nolan (Harvard University) and Victoria de Grazia (Rutgers University). The moderator will be David Montgomery (Yale University).

The business meeting will discuss among other things the organizational structure of the Study Group and the role and editorial policies of ILWCH. Officers will be elected for the coming year.

A Conference on Humanities and Labor will be hosted by the University of Southern California on February 20-22, 1980. The aim of the conference is to bring together labor leaders, rank and file members, and humanists from across the Southwest to discuss and design humanities oriented programs that would enhance and promote the social, cultural and/or political scope of union activities. It is hoped that proposals coming out of the conference will be submitted to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and/or state humanities councils for funding. For further information, please contact:

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The Southern Labor Studies Association is sponsoring a Southern Labor History Conference in Atlanta on May 1-3, 1980. The Conference will bring together trade unionists, academicians, and others interested in the history of organized labor in the South. The topics to be discussed will include labor law and lawyers, women in the labor movement, blacks and labor, and labor and politics. For more information, please contact Dr. Leslie S. Hough, Secretary-Treasurer, Southern Labor Studies Association, Urban Life 1028, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, 30303.

Lucha Films was born immediately following the 1973 coup in Chile, when a group of individuals interested in Latin American working class movements came together to make a film which could explain to U.S. audiences why the coup occurred and the importance of organizing an international solidarity movement with the Chilean people. We produced a 55 minute documentary called *Chile: With Poems and Guns* which has been distributed internationally. We became convinced that film is a powerful tool through which hegemonic ideology can be challenged, and so we formed Lucha Film collective for the purpose of building an on-going group which would continue to make films with a working class perspective.

Our second project, a 45 minute color documentary called *Communique From Argentina*, analyzes the complex history of Peronism through the life of Lili Massafero, the head of the women's branch of the movement's left tendency. This film has won prizes at two European documentary film festivals and has been used by Argentine solidarity groups who oppose the current repressive regime in their country, whose primary target is the militant and highly politicized Argentine working class.

We are currently in post production on a film which analyzes the history of working class struggles in Peru. For information about our group and rental or purchases of our films, please write to:

Lucha Films
P.O. Box 943
Culver City, Ca. 90230
or call (213) 204-0504

The Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., announces a major exhibition in American social history, "Life and Times in Shoe City: The Shoe Workers of Lynn." Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the exhibition will be on view from September 14, 1979 through January 27, 1980 at 132 Essex Street, Salem, Mass.

The exhibition will focus on the 1870-1920 period when Lynn, Mass. produced more shoes than any other city in the United States. Themes explored through artifacts, documents and memorabilia include: the shift from a seasonal hand-craft industry of small shops and household production to large scale entrepreneurship and mechanized factories; the development and changes in the built environment as Lynn grew from a small rural town to a densely populated industrial city; the lives of the workers and the industrialists at work and leisure; the intricate "human networks" of labor unions, voluntary societies, clubs, religious and social organizations that multiplied as Lynn's population grew in its ethnic diversity. A final section of the exhibition will examine the modern city of Lynn. As the shoe industry has become extinct, urban renewal and new economic bases have changed the city.

Accompanying the exhibition there are three publications containing essays by Marty Blatt, John Cumbler, Pamela Guren, Keith Melder, guest curator of the exhibition, and Naomi Rosenblum. A wide variety of programs including dramati-

zations by the Newbury Street Theater and the New York Street Theater Caravan, an Old Timer's Day and musical entertainments will enhance the historical themes of the exhibition. The central event of the autumn will be a History Workshop on October 26 and 27, co-sponsored by the Essex Institute and the Massachusetts History Workshop. This program has been designed to involve historians and the former workers in shoe factories in a dialogue.

For further information please contact the Curator, Essex Institute, Salem, Mass. 01970 or call (617) 744-3390.

Printing trades in eighteenth-century France are richly described in Robert Darnton, *The Business of Enlightenment: A Publishing History of the Encyclopédie* (Harvard, 1979). Chapter Five, pp. 177-245, discusses bookmaking and provides an in-depth look at several significant topics: the organization of work, the recruitment of workers, management's efforts to lower wages, and laborers' abilities to control their own work. The data is exceedingly rich, especially for the early modern period, and the conclusions are interesting, if not earthshaking. Printing was artisanal work, so it should not surprise us that production was task-oriented and that printers could influence the pace of their own performance. Management was not, however, paternalistic for print-shop owners cabaled together to keep down wages and fired, without hesitation, workers when there was no work to be done. (Courtesy of Jack Censer)

Comintern Documents. A bibliography and catalog of the official publications of the Third, or Communist International (Comintern) is available free of charge from the Clearwater Publishing Company, Inc., 1995 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10023. The bibliography includes 145 documents originally published in English, French, German, Russian, and Italian between 1919 and 1939. Among these documents are periodicals, reports and working papers of the Congresses, reports of executive sessions, documents of the Red International of Labor Unions, and reports of court proceedings against various individuals.

The complete collection of Comintern documents is currently being reproduced by the Fondazione Giangiacomo Feltrinelli in Milan, Italy. When completed, the documents will be available on microfiche.

The Fondazione Feltrinelli compiles, reproduces, and distributes documents and publications relevant to workers' movements throughout the world. In addition to the Comintern documents, the catalog describes other important periodicals of Italian and international socialism which the Fondazione has made available. These include a complete run of the Italian Socialist journal *Avanti!* from 1896 to 1926 and publications of the French Economists (Physiocrats) of the eighteenth century.