



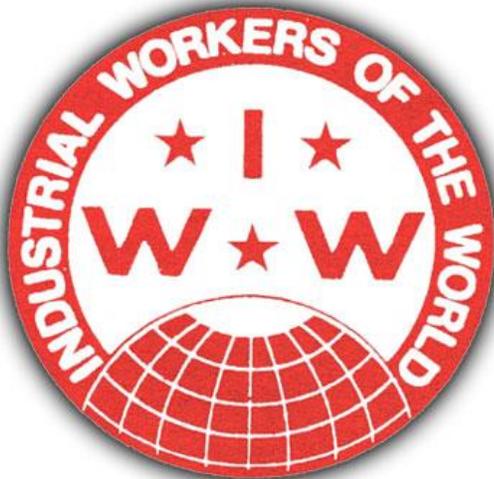
IWW

In 1908, Flynn became an organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). The IWW was a radical labor union of unskilled workers who often were immigrants; most could not qualify for membership in the American Federation of Labor (AFL), which represented skilled craftsmen who usually were older and American-born. IWW members often were young and impulsive: they hoped to lead a general strike or boycott, and some advocated sabotage and violence to overthrow the capitalist system. .. Although still a teenager, she did not hesitate to speak to large male groups, often in harsh circumstances. Under the aegis of the IWW, Flynn organized mine workers on the Minnesota iron range and went on to Montana and Spokane, where her incendiary speeches twice brought arrest and jail.

http://www.kued.org/productions/joehill/images/faces/subindex/flynn_speak.jpg

** <http://www.nwhm.org/education-resources/biography/biographies/elizabeth-gurley-flynn/>

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Forty miners walked off the job on June 3, beginning the 1916 strike. The unorganized miners soon realized they needed help. Unlike the 1907 strike, this time the Western Federation of Miners was not interested in organizing the miners. Instead, the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW or Wobblies) responded, sending in some of their top organizers. Many of the strikebreakers from 1907, ironically, became instrumental in the 1916 strike.

The 1916 strike was marked by violence and repression. Unlike 1907, strikebreakers were not as readily available and other tactics were employed to end the strike. The civil liberties of strikers were violated, mine guards and police used force to intimidate strikers, union leaders were jailed, economic pressure was exerted on merchants who extended credit to strikers, and finally, the Oliver Iron Mining Company refused to negotiate with the strikers.**

http://www.lucyparsonspj.org/images/iww_large.jpg

** <http://polkaostrich.wordpress.com/tag/wobblies/>

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William Haywood and Founding of the IWW

The [IWW was founded](#) in Chicago in June 1905 at a convention of two hundred [socialists](#), [anarchists](#), and radical trade unionists from all over the United States. They were opposed to the policies of the [American Federation of Labor](#) (AFL). A large number of members were from the [Western Federation of Miners](#) led by [William D. \("Big Bill"\) Haywood](#).

Finns formed the other sizeable portion of the immigrant IWW membership. Some estimate the number of Finns between five and ten thousand.*

*Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Continental_Congress_of_the_Working_Class_1905 on 07 17 2012 @ 7:00 PM



http://www.google.com/imgres?q=William+D.+%28%22Big+Bill%22%29+Haywood&num=10&hl=en&biw=1440&bih=745&tbn=isch&tbnid=tbZINwozNrrtCM:&imgrefurl=http://www.lawyersguns moneyblog.com/2011/12/this-day-in-labor-history-december-30-1905&docid=Cvh3ngiRewkP_M&imgurl=http://www.lawyersguns moneyblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/BigBillHaywood_1.jpg&w=450&h=600&ei=mQAwUPWjA4XU9ATNzYCWdQ&zoom=1&iact=hc&vpx=376&vpy=115&dur=2925&hovh=259&hovw=194&tx=88&ty=281&sig=105198550520148884591&page=1&tbnh=130&tbnw=105&start=0&ndsp=40&ved=1t:429,r:2,s:0,i:81

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