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Labor Racket or Company Bracket?

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CIO Union

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LABOR RACKET *or...* COMPANY RACKET?

A story is being spread throughout Humboldt County to the effect that the CIO unions are nothing more or less than rackets controlled by racketeers, such as this writer. When the average American hears something called a racket, he is led to believe that the organization so named is set up for only one purpose -- to take money from the public and not give anything in return. Only in this case the CIO unions are supposed to be picking not on the general public, but on the lumber workers here in the redwood district.

What are the real facts of the matter? This writer is going to do the best he can to show you what the facts really are. Our organization, the International Woodworkers of America, a CIO union, collects \$12 a year in dues (and \$2.00 initiation fee) from each of our members, if that member works steady. For those months when he does not work, the member is not required to pay dues and does not lose his standing in the union.

For the sum of \$12, what does our member get? In areas where we have the majority of the workers in our union, the workers receive 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per hour minimum, a 40-hour week, an 8-hour day, and time a a half for all work per formed in excess of the time mentioned above. They also have something that is really much better in my opinion than anything mentioned, and that is JOB SECURITY, which means that the boss can't fire you just because he don't like the way you cut your hair or because he wants to put his brother-in-law in your place. That is part of what we see to that our members get for their \$12 a year.

Now for a comparison between the CIO as a "racket" and the "Racket" the Redwood Lumber Association here in Humboldt and Mendocino counties has. **WHAT DO THE WORKERS HERE PAY FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING FOR THESE LUMBER COMPANIES? --** although this writer has not heard of anyone accusing these companies of being racketeers!

	<u>Redwoods</u>	<u>Organized Areas</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Common Labor			
Pay per hour	\$.50	.62 $\frac{1}{2}$.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
per day	4.00	5.00	1.00
per week	20.00	25.00	5.00
per month	80.00	100.00	20.00
per year	960.00	1200.00	240.00
Semi-skilled (offbear)			
per hour	.55	.73	.18
per day	4.40	5.84	1.44
per week	22.00	29.20	7.20
per month	88.00	116.80	28.80
per year	1056.00	1401.60	345.60
Skilled (Mill sawyer)			
per hour	1.05	1.40	.35
per day	8.40	11.20	2.80
per week	42.00	56.00	14.00
per month	168.00	224.00	56.00
per year	2016.00	2638.00	672.00

Our Union is a business organization set up for the benefit of laboring people, and this writer realizes that if we cannot convince the workers of this area that it is good business to belong to our union, we will never get any members.

We ask you to read this handbill carefully and to study the chart. Check the figures against your own record of your income. This writer feels sure that if there's any difference it will be a difference in favor of the organized workers.

The IWA and the CIO are here to stay. We intend to do our best to show the Lumber workers that it **PAYS TO ORGANIZE**, after all, which is best for you -- \$12 a year to the CIO union or some \$300 a year to some redwood lumber company?

An open meeting for lumberworkers will be held at the CIO hall, 130 F St., Friday night, May 2nd. All lumber and timber workers are invited to attend.

Issued by: Bill Gettings, CIO Organizer.