

Toni Gilpin

Suggestions for Further Reading in American Labor and Union History*

* This is not an exhaustive list by any means, but includes many of my favorites and also attempts to cover a range of unions, occupations, workers' experiences, organizing efforts, and management strategies. Some of these books are intended for general audiences while others are denser academic texts; some are relatively recent while others are older and might be out of print, but used copies are usually available online. I've tried not to include books that are impossible to find or are prohibitively expensive.

General History and Surveys:

Clark, Christopher, and Nancy Hewitt, eds. *Who Built America? Working People and the Nation's Politics, Economy, Culture and Society* (Two Volumes).

Dray, Phillip. *There is Power in a Union: The Epic Story of Labor in America*.

Green, James. *The World of the Worker: Labor in 20th Century America*.

Kessler-Harris, Alice. *Women Have Always Worked: A Concise History*.

Lichtenstein, Nelson. *State of the Union: A Century of American Labor*.

Murolo, Priscilla and A.B. Chitty. *From the Folks Who Brought You the Weekend: A Short, Illustrated History of Labor in the United States*.

More Specific Topics:

Adler, William H. *The Man Who Never Died: The Life, Times and Legacy of Joe Hill, American Icon*.

Aguiar, Luís, and Joseph McCartin, eds. *Purple Power: The History and Global Impact of SEIU*.

Arnesen, Eric. *Waterfront Workers of New Orleans: Race, Class, and Politics, 1863-1923*.

Bageant, Joe. *Deer Hunting with Jesus: Dispatches from America's Class War*.

Bardacke, Frank. *Trampling Out the Vintage: Cesar Chavez and the Two Souls of the United Farm Workers*.

Barrett, James. *Work and Community in the Jungle: Chicago's Packing-House Workers, 1894-1922*.

Brody, David. *Workers in Industrial America*.

Benson, Susan Porter. *Counter Cultures: Saleswomen, Managers and Customers in American Department Stores, 1890-1940*.

Berlin, Ira. *Many Thousands Gone: The First Two Centuries of Slavery in America*.

Boyle, Kevin. *The UAW and the Heyday of American Liberalism*.

Braverman, Harry. *Labor and Monopoly Capital: The Degradation of Work in the Twentieth Century*.

Burk, Robert F. *Marvin Miller, Baseball Revolutionary*.

Bussell, Michael. *From Harvard to the Ranks of Labor: Powers Hapgood and the American Working Class*.

Cobble, Dorothy Sue. *Dishing it Out: Waitresses and their Unions in the 20th Century*.

Cobble, Dorothy Sue. *The Other Women's Movement: Workplace Justice and Social Rights in Modern America*.

Cowan, Ruth Schwartz. *More Work For Mother: The Ironies Of Household Technology From The Open Hearth To The Microwave*.

Cowie, Jefferson. *Capital Moves: RCA's Seventy-Year Quest for Cheap Labor*.

Cowie, Jefferson. *Stayin' Alive: The 1970s and the Last Days of the Working Class*.

- Craypo, Charles and Bruce Nissen. *Grand Designs: The Impact of Corporate Strategies on Workers, Unions, and Communities*.
- Davis, Mike. *Prisoners of the American Dream: Politics and Economy in the History of the US Working Class*.
- Dublin, Thomas. *Women at Work: The Transformation of Work and Community in Lowell, Massachusetts, 1826-1860*.
- Feurer, Rosemary. *Radical unionism in the Midwest, 1900-1950*.
- Filippelli, Ronald and Mark McColloch. *Cold War in the Working Class: the Rise and Decline of the United Electrical Workers*.
- Fink, Leon. *Workingmen's Democracy: The Knights of Labor and American Politics*.
- Foley, Neil. *The White Scourge: Mexicans, Blacks and Poor Whites in Texas Cotton Culture*.
- Fones-Wolf, Elizabeth. *Selling Free Enterprise: The Business Assault Against Labor and Liberalism, 1945-1960*.
- Fones-Wolf, Elizabeth and Ken Fones-Wolf. *Struggle for the Soul of the Postwar South: White Evangelical Protestants and Operation Dixie*.
- Forbath, William. *Law and the Shaping of the American Labor Movement*.
- Frank, Dana. *Buy American: The Untold Story of Economic Nationalism*.
- Frank, Dana. *Purchasing Power: Consumer Organizing, Gender, and the Seattle Labor Movement, 1919-1929*.
- Fraser, Steve. *Labor Will Rule: Sidney Hillman and the Rise of American Labor*.
- Freeman, Joshua. *Behemoth: A History of the Factory and the Making of the Modern World*.
- Freeman, Joshua. *Working Class New York: Life and Labor Since World War II*.
- Friday, Chris. *Organizing Asian American Labor: The Pacific Coast Canned-Salmon Industry, 1870-1942*.
- Georgakas, Dan and Marvin Surkin. *Detroit, I Do Mind Dying: A Study in Urban Revolution*.
- Gourevitch, Alex. *From Slavery to the Cooperative Commonwealth: Labor and Republican Liberty in the Nineteenth Century*.
- Green, James. *Death in the Haymarket: A Story of Chicago, the First Labor Movement, and the Bombing that Divided Gilded Age America*.
- Green, James. *The Devil Is Here in These Hills: West Virginia's Coal Miners and Their Battle for Freedom*.
- Greenwald, Maurine. *Women, War and Work: The Impact of World War I on Women Workers in the United States*.
- Gilpin, Toni, et. al. *On Strike for Respect: The Clerical and Technical Workers' Strike at Yale University, 1984-85*.
- Gilpin, Toni. *The Long Deep Grudge: A Story of Big Capital, Radical Labor, and Class War in the American Heartland*.
- Halpern, Rick. *Down on the Killing Floor: Black and White Workers in Chicago's Packinghouses, 1904-54*.
- Harris, LaShawn. *Sex Workers, Psychics, and Numbers Runners: Black Women in New York City's Underground Economy*.

- Higbie, Tobias. *Labor's Mind: A History of Working-Class Intellectual Life*.
- Honey, Michael. *Southern Labor and Black Civil Rights: Organizing Memphis Workers*.
- Honey, Michael. *Going Down Jericho Road: The Memphis Strike, Martin Luther King's Last Campaign*.
- Hounshell, David. *From the American System to Mass Production, 1800-1932: The Development of Manufacturing Technology in the United States*.
- Hunter, Tera. *To 'Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women's Lives and Labors After the Civil War*.
- Jones, Jacqueline. *Goddess of Anarchy: The Life and Times of Lucy Parsons, American Radical*.
- Jones, Jacqueline. *Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work, and the Family from Slavery to the Present*.
- Jones, William P. *The Tribe of Black Ulysses: African American Lumber Workers in the Jim Crow South*.
- Kelley, Robin D.G. *Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression*.
- Kelley, Robin D. G. *Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class*.
- Kenny, Kevin. *Making Sense of the Molly Maguires*.
- Kimeldorf, Howard. *Reds or Rackets?: The Making of Radical and Conservative Unions on the Waterfront*.
- Korstad, Robert. *Civil Rights Unionism: Tobacco Workers and the Struggle for Democracy in the Mid-Twentieth-Century South*.
- Leopold, Les. *The Man Who Hated Work and Loved Labor: The Life and Times of Tony Mazzocchi*.
- Letwin, Dan. *The Challenge of Interracial Unionism: Alabama Coal Miners, 1879-1921*.
- Lichtenstein, Nelson. *Walter Reuther: The Most Dangerous Man in Detroit*.
- Lukas, J. Anthony. *Big Trouble: A Murder in a Small Western Town Sets Off a Struggle for the Soul of America*.
- Lynd, Alice and Staughton Lynd. *Rank and File: Personal Histories by Working-Class Organizers*.
- McCartin, Joseph. *Collision Course: Ronald Reagan, the Air Traffic Controllers and the Strike that Changed America*.
- Meier, August and Elliott Rudwick. *Black Detroit and the Rise of the UAW*.
- Merritt, Keri Leigh. *Masterless Men: Poor Whites and Slavery in the Antebellum South*.
- Metzgar, Jack. *Striking Steel: Solidarity Remembered*.
- Meyer, Stephen. *The Five Dollar Day: Labor Management and Social Control in the Ford Motor Company, 1908-1921*.
- Milkman, Ruth. *On Gender, Labor, and Inequality*.
- Montgomery, David. *Beyond Equality: Labor and the Radical Republicans, 1862-1872*.
- Montgomery, David. *The Fall of the House of Labor: The Workplace, the State, and American Labor Activism, 1865-1925*.
- Montgomery, David. *Workers' Control in America: Studies in the History of Work, Technology and Labor Struggles*.
- Moody, Kim. *An Injury to All: The Decline of American Unionism*.

- Moore, Kate. *The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women*.
- Morgan, Edmund. *American Slavery, American Freedom*.
- Nelson, Bruce. *Divided We Stand: American Workers and the Struggle for Black Equality*.
- Nelson, Bruce. *Workers on the Waterfront: Seamen, Longshoremen, and Unionism in the 1930s*.
- Noble, David. *America by Design: Science, Technology, and the Rise of Corporate Capitalism*.
- Orleck, Annelise. *Common Sense and Little Fire: Women and Working Class Politics in the United States, 1900-1965*.
- Painter, Nell Irvin. *The Narrative of Hosea Hudson: The Life and Times of a Black Radical*.
- Roediger, David. *The Wages of Whiteness: Race and the Making of the American Working Class*.
- Rousmanier, Kate. *Citizen Teacher: The Life and Leadership Of Margaret Haley*.
- Rubio, Philip. *There's Always Work at the Post Office: African American Postal Workers and the Fight for Jobs, Justice, and Equality*.
- Ruiz, Vicki. *Cannery Women, Cannery Lives: Mexican Women, Unionization and the California Food Processing Industry, 1930-1950*.
- Russell, Frances. *A City in Terror: Calvin Coolidge and the 1919 Boston Police Strike*.
- Salvatore, Nick. *Eugene V. Debs: Citizen and Socialist*.
- Saxton, Alexander. *The Indispensable Enemy: Labor and the Anti-Chinese Movement in California*.
- Serrin, William. *Homestead: The Glory and Tragedy of an American Steel Town*.
- Shapiro, Karin. *A New South Rebellion: The Battle Against Convict Labor in the Tennessee Coalfields, 1871-1896*.
- Smith, Merritt Roe. *Harpers Ferry Armory and the New Technology: The Challenge of Change*.
- Stein, Judith. *Pivotal Decade: How the United States Traded Factories for Finance in the Seventies*.
- Stein, Judith. *Running Steel, Running America: Race, Economic Policy, and the Decline of Liberalism*.
- Sugrue, Thomas. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*.
- Vargas, Zaragosa. *Proletarians of the North: Mexican Industrial Workers in Detroit and the Midwest, 1917-1933*.
- Von Drehle, David. *Triangle: The Fire That Changed America*.
- Watson, Bruce. *Bread and Roses: Mills, Migrants, and the Struggle for the American Dream*.
- Wilkerson, Jessica. *To Live Here, You Have to Fight: How Women Led the Appalachian Movements for Social Justice*.
- Woodrum, Robert H. *'Everybody Was Black Down There': Race and Industrial Change in the Alabama Coalfields*.
- Zinn, Howard, Dana Frank and Robin D.G. Kelley. *Three Strikes: Miners, Musicians, Salesgirls, and the Fighting Spirit of Labor's Last Century*.