



## Labor History - Resource List

### BOOKS

#### Histories

*American Workers, American Unions*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (2002), by Robert Zieger and Gilbert Gall

*At The River I Stand: Memphis, the 1968 Strike, and Martin Luther King* (1985), Joan Turner Beifuss

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

*Hard Work: Remaking the American Labor Movement* (2004), by Rick Fantasia

*A History of the Labor Movement in the United States*, 10 volumes (1947-1994), by Philip Foner

*Labor in the USA: A History* (1984), by Ronald Filipelli

*Labor's Untold Story* (1955), by Richard Boyer and Herbert Morais

*A People's History of the United States: 1492-Present (Revised)* (1995), by Howard Zinn

*Power to the Public Worker* (1974), by Richard Billings and John Greenya

*A Social History of the Laboring Classes from Colonial Times to the Present* (1999), by Jacqueline Jones

*Strike!* revised (1997), by Jeremy Brecher

*Three Strikes: The Fighting Spirit of Labor's Last Century* (2001), by Howard Zinn, Dana Frank and Robin Kelley

*Toil and Trouble: A History of American Labor* (1971), by Thomas Brooks

*Triangle: The Fire That Changed America* (2004), by David Von Drehle

*Why Unions Matter* (1998), by Michael Yates

*Wobblies: The Story of the IWW and Syndicalism in the United States*, revised (1999), by Patrick Renshaw



## Biographies

*A. Philip Randolph: A Biographical Portrait* (reprint, 1987), By Jervis Anderson

*The Bending Cross: A Biography of Eugene Victor Debs* (reprint, 1969), by Ray Ginger

*The Fight In The Fields: Cesar Chavez and the Farmworkers Movement* (1998), by Susan Ferris, Ricardo Sandoval and Diana Hembree

*Harry Bridges: The Rise and Fall of Radical Labor in the United States* (1972), by Charles Larrowe

*Iron In Her Soul: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and the American Left* (1995), by Helen Camp

*Jerry Wurf: Labor's Last Angry Man* (1982), by Joseph Goulden

*Joe Hill* (reprint, 1984), by Gibbs Smith

*John L. Lewis: A Biography* (reprint, 1986), by Melvyn Dubofsky and Warren Van Tine

*Mother Jones: The Most Dangerous Woman In America* (2002), by Elliot Gorn

*Rebel Girl: An Autobiography – My First Life* (1973), by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

*Samuel Gompers and Organized Labor In America* (reprint, 1993), by Harold Livesay

## MOVIES

**American Dream** (1991, 98 minutes): Academy Award winning documentary focusing on the 1984 Hormel Plant strike in Austin, MN; directed by Barbara Kopple

**At The River I Stand** (1994, 58 minutes): Documentary of the 1968 AFSCME sanitation workers' strike in Memphis, TN, and the intersection of the civil rights and labor movements

**The Big One** (1998, 90 minutes): In search of an answer to the question: "When corporations are reaping record profits, why are workers being laid off?"; directed by Michael Moore

**Bound For Glory** (1976, 147 minutes): Bio-pic of Woody Guthrie, winner of Academy Awards for musical score and cinematography; David Carradine

**Bread And Roses** (2000, 110 minutes): Drama, loosely based on a 1990 janitor's strike in Century City, CA, the film tells the story of union efforts to organize office-cleaners in Los Angeles; Adrien Brody, Pilar Padilla



**The Grapes Of Wrath** (1939, 129 minutes): Excellent film version of John Steinbeck's novel of the Great Depression, about Oklahoma migrants driven from their fields and ending up as agricultural workers in California; Henry Fonda, John Carradine

**Harlan County, USA** (1977, 103 minutes): Academy Award winning documentary of a bitter 1974 strike of coal miners in Harlan County, Kentucky; directed by Barbara Kopple, this film has been hailed as a landmark in the history of American documentaries

**Harlan County War** (2000, 104 minutes): Drama, based on the events depicted in *Harlan County, USA*; Holly Hunter

**How Green Was My Valley** (1941, 118 minutes): Drama, winner of five Academy Awards, classic film about a Welsh mining town; Walter Pidgeon, Maureen O'Hara

**The Inheritance** (1964, 55 minutes): Documentary providing an overview of U.S. labor history, emphasizing the dedication to social justice

**Matewan** (1987, 130 minutes): Drama, fact-based story of diverse miners in 1920's West Virginia battling a powerful coal company and its hired army of gun thugs; directed by John Sayles

**The Molly Maguires** (1970, 123 minutes): Drama, based on the story of a secret society of militant Irish-American coal miners in Pennsylvania in the 1870s who used violent tactics to fight the oppression of coal company owners; Sean Connery, Richard Harris

**Norma Rae** (1979, 113 minutes): Drama, portrayal of a union organizing drive in a Southern textile mill, based on the true story of union activist Crystal Lee Sutton; Sally Field (who won the Academy Award for best actress)

**Roger and Me** (1989, 87 minutes): Devastatingly funny documentary of the closing of the General Motors plant in Flint, MI in the mid-1980s, and the impact on the city of losing 30,000 jobs; directed by Michael Moore

**Salt of the Earth** (1953, 94 minutes): Based on a strike of predominantly Mexican American zinc miners in New Mexico in 1950; most of the roles are played by the strikers and their family members; written and produced by filmmakers who were blacklisted at the time, the film is now included in the Library of Congress's National Film Registry

**Silkwood** (1983, 128 minutes): Dramatization of the life of Karen Silkwood, a union activist in a plutonium processing plant who blew the whistle on unsafe practices at the company and who died under suspicious circumstances; Meryl Streep, Cher

**10,000 Black Men Named George** (2002, 112 minutes): Docudrama of the life of A. Philip Randolph and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Andre Braugher

**This Is What Democracy Looks Like** (2000, 70 minutes): Documentary about the 1999 WTO protests in Seattle; narration by Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins