



## Labor's Story in the United States

By Philip Nicholson

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In this, the first broad overview of labor in the United States in twenty years, Philip Nicholson examines anew the questions, the villains, the heroes, and the issues of work in America. In language that is clear and unpretentious, Labor's Story in the United States looks at American labor from the perspective of institutions and people: the rise of unions, the struggles over slavery, wages, and child labor, public and private responses to union organizing; all of these events and more are covered with a focus on the integral relationship between the strength of labor and the growth of democracy. Unlike recent books that have covered labor in the last century, Nicholson looks at the broad landscape of labor since before the revolution, never losing sight of the divides of class, race, and gender. Through it all, he paints a vivid picture of the strength of labor movements and how they helped make the United States what it is today. Labor's Story in the United States will find its place on the shelves of scholars and students as an Indispensable read on the twin growth of labor and American democracy.

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#### Review

"We have long needed a lively and intelligent history of the labor movement in the United States, and Philip Yale Nicholson gives us just that. He provides a rich historical context, and a refreshing class consciousness. I believe this book will be invaluable in educating a new generation about a much neglected and crucial part of the nation's history." -Howard Zinn, author of *A People's History of the United States* "This is a wonderfully comprehensive narrative of American labor, full of insight and shrewd judgments. It will be exceedingly useful in the classroom." -Nelson Lichtenstein, University of California, Santa Barbara, and author of *State of the Union: A Century of American Labor* "Nicholson's history of labor is the story of the evolving dynamics of democracy and equality, and it could serve as a general history of the United States from the bottom-up perspective... Labor's Story in the United States is balanced, thoroughly supported, and accessible to an undergraduate or popular readership. Equally important, it is written by a scholar who cares about the people whose story he tells." -WorkingUSA "Nicholson's style is clear and readable, and students were especially engaged by his discussion of the power of capital to shape American culture... [a] monumental work that prods us to consider the fate of labor and democracy." -Labor Studies Journal

#### From the Publisher

A comprehensive, readable history of work in America. Study Guide available.

#### From the Inside Flap

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