

Upstate NY IWW Supports Public Ownership of the Railroads

The James Connolly Upstate NY Regional General Membership Branch of the Industrial Workers of the World is happy to support RWU's Resolution for Public Ownership of the Railroads and to stand in solidarity with rail workers in a quest for justice and sanity for railroad industry out of control with greed and whose core services have deteriorated into a public nightmare.

As other rail systems around the world have demonstrated, public ownership brings a saner and safer operational model into play, where workers and their unions can help to influence policy and where the insanity of privately held entities performing public commons services is abolished for the smart alternative for the benefit of all.

Recent rail disasters like Lac Megantic and east Palestine have conclusively shown the system failures brought about through precision scheduled railroading and the diabolical stock buyback schemes which dominate modern railroad finances. The Class 1 carriers have abandoned all ethical and moral logic and shown how their cowboy capitalism makes a mockery of safety concerns and the very essence of their existence, their dedicated workforce. They have made them fodder for their worship at the altar of blood money and it is time to stop them cold.

Our local organization's namesake patron, James Connolly, advocated for worker control of transport systems and we can think of no better cause than this one at this time to carry on his legacy.

On to the workers republic! Victory for RWU and all the rail workers. Solidarity!