

large capitalist countries, steel workers and auto workers have also been hit by layoffs.

And as for undocumented workers (those super-exploited immigrants that the big business press brands as "illegal aliens"), immigrants have been used as scapegoats by the powers-that-be in this country practically since it began. According to the prejudice-promoters, unemployment, disease, high prices, crime, floods and bad winters were caused by whichever nationality was the most recent arrival, be they Irish, Chinese, Italian, Jewish, Polish, Mexican or Haitian.

Although the bosses tried to keep wages low by playing one group against another, militant and radical unions at the turn of the century were able to unite immigrants with workers born here to fight for their rights. During the 1920's, however, the conservative craft-oriented union leaders of the American Federation of Labor fell for the bosses' story about "foreigners stealing jobs from Americans" and supported the

passage of laws which blocked almost all new immigration.

But keeping out immigrants didn't have any impact on stopping the biggest theft of American jobs in history. Only five years after the 1924 signing of the National Origins Act by Calvin Coolidge, the stock market on Wall Street crashed, beginning a decade-long depression. One out of three Americans had their jobs stolen, not by foreigners but by the "American system of free enterprise."

We need answers, not scapegoats

The millions of working people who have the job axe hanging over their heads do not need scapegoats, they need real answers about the causes of unemployment, and real solutions.

And to find those answers, you don't