

BOOK REVIEW

Mother Jones Speaks

Collected writings and speeches

BY MOTHER JONES, PHILIP S. FONER

From widely scattered manuscript collections and other sources, Philip Foner has assembled for this volume documents that afford welcome insights into the activities of Mary Harris Jones and how they were shaped by the social convictions that she held.

The materials presented here fall into five categories: speeches, testimony before congressional committees, articles, interviews, and letters. In a brief essay Foner emphasizes the constancy of Jones's commitment to socialism, describes her effectiveness as a union organizer, and challenges feminist contentions that Mother Jones was opposed to or, at best, uninterested in the women's rights movement.

Limited guides to relevant literature are found in the footnotes and in a selected bibliography. A brief chronology of Jones's life (1830-1930) is presented. Recommended for large public libraries and college libraries at all levels.