**Joe Hill, about 1911: "Casey Jones– The Union Scab," performed by Pete Seeger in 1990**

*Joe Hill wrote songs for the labor movement. This song is a parody of an American folk song about Casey Jones, a train engineer who died trying to prevent his train from crashing. The real Casey Jones had been a union member, but Joe Hill's parody shows him as a "scab" to make a point. "Scabbing" meant working while a union was trying to have a strike. S. P. stands for Southern Pacific, a railroad line. Scan the QR code or follow the link to listen!*

Link: [Casey Jones (The Union Scab)]

Lyrics:

The workers on the S.P. line for strike sent out a call
But Casey Jones the engineer, he wouldn't strike at all
His boiler it was leaking, and the drivers on the bum
And the engines and the bearings, they were all out of plum

Casey Jones, kept his junkpile running
Casey Jones, was doing double-time
Casey Jones, got a wooden medal
For being good and faithful on the S.P. line

The workers said to Casey, "Won't you help us win this strike?"
But Casey said, "Let me alone, you'd better take hike"
Well Casey's wheezy engine ran right off the worn-out track
And Casey hit the river with an awful crack

Casey Jones, hit the river bottom
Casey Jones, broke his blooming spine
Casey Jones, turned into an angel
He took a trip to heaven on the S.P. line

Well Casey got up to heaven to the pearly gate
He said, "I'm Casey Jones, the guy that pulled the S.P. freight"
"You're just the man," said Peter, "our musicians are on strike
You can get a job a-scabbing any time you like"

Casey Jones, got a job in heaven
Casey Jones, was doing mighty fine
Casey Jones, went scabbing on the angels
Just like he did to workers on the S.P. line

Well the angels got together, they said it wasn't fair
For Casey Jones to go around a-scabbing everywhere
The angels union number twenty-three, they sure were there
They promptly fired Casey down the Golden Stairs

Casey Jones, went to hell a-flying
Casey Jones, the devil said "Oh fine"
Casey Jones, get busy shoveling sulphur
It's what you get for scabbing on the S.P. line