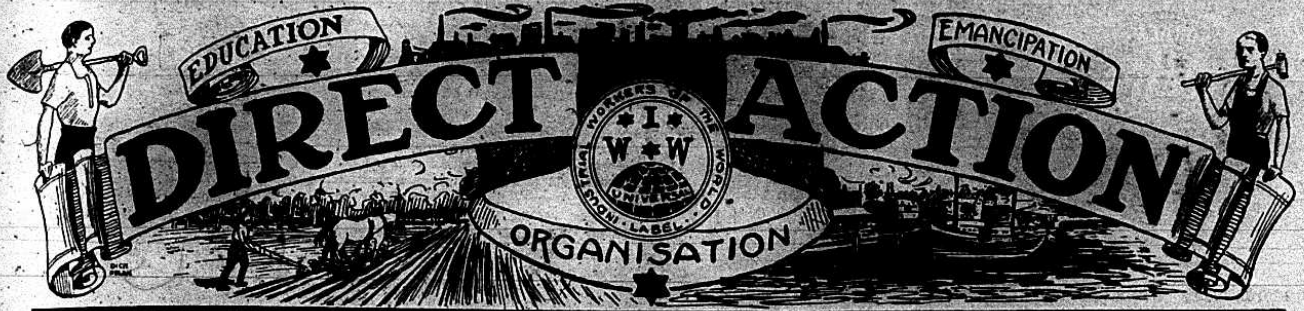


Dungarees for Deadbeats.



VOL. 3, NO. 103. Registered at the General Post-office, Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper. SYDNEY, January 6, 1917. ONE PENNY.

Defence Agitation.

RELEASE AND DEFENCE COMMITTEE LITERATURE.

The Defence and Release Committee are issuing leaflets and books dealing with the bitter attacks upon the I.W.W. and its members. They have printed 100,000 copies of Harry Boote's article, "Guilty, or Not Guilty?" which appeared in the "Australian Worker." This has been followed by the publication of another leaflet entitled, "A Challenge to those who malign the Industrial Workers of the World." The latter deals with some of the despicable attempts by certain people to discredit the organisation. Bundles of 100 of either of the above leaflets will be forwarded to any address for one shilling or 7s 6d for 1,000.

Following these we are printing a large quantity of "The Speeches from the Dock" in booklet form. These will be retailed at 3d each and 2s per dozen. All the proceeds go to the Defence and Release Fund. Orders for any of this literature must be addressed to the Committee, Box 98, Haymarket, N.S.W. The speeches include those delivered by Sawtell and Miller in W.A., as well as the boys who were sentenced in Sydney. Order early, as they will be out this week.

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WATER AND SEWERAGE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION.

To Secretary of I.W.W.

I am instructed by resolution of my Union to communicate with all Industrial and Craft Organisations with the object of endeavoring to secure their co-operation in a combined effort to bring about the release or at least a new trial of those members of the I.W.W. who have just recently been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

There is nothing in common between Unionists and the principles advocated by the I.W.W. other than the sincere desire on the part of both to generally improve the conditions of the workers as a whole. The methods adopted are diametrically opposite, but the object aimed at is the same.

It may be urged by some that the sentences imposed were not over severe for the men found guilty of the crimes attributed to them.

In the minds of unbiased men who listened to the speeches delivered prior to their arrest, no impression of danger to the community would or could be gained. They were no doubt indignant at what was claimed to be cruel and unjust treatment of one of their leaders and may in consequence have given expression to thoughts which in calmer moments they would not use.

Following their arrest and even during the trial all sorts of vindictive and scandalous statements were made about them both by word of mouth and in the press so that they were in this unique position under the laws of the land of being practically found guilty before being tried.

The evidence before the Court was of such character as to induce one to the belief that the case for the Crown must inevitably fail for the reason that there was not any direct evidence that all or any of those men were connected with acts of incendiarism.

The circumstantial evidence by which they were convicted was mostly of a tainted nature. First was that of the police, anxious to secure a conviction at any cost, and secondly, evidence by men, traitors to their comrades, admitted police spies who on their own statements were absolute criminals who should have stood before the bar of justice.

In Gaol.

For Our Freedom.

FELLOW-WORKERS:

SINCE THE START OF THE BIG OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE RANKS OF LABOR, A FEW MONTHS AGO, THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR CLASS HAVE BEEN CONVICTED ON CHARGES OF CONSPIRACY OR SEDITION, OR ON OTHER CHARGES ARISING OUT OF THE CONSPIRACY ISSUE:

IN SYDNEY.

TOM GLYNN, J. B. KING, PETER LARKIN, DONALD GRANT, CHARLIE REEVE, BILLY TEEN, DON MCPHERSON, JOE FAGAN, BOB BESANT, THOMAS MOORE, BILLY BEATTIE, and JACK HAMILTON.

IN BROKEN HILL.

FRED. SMITH, W. H. COOMBS, JACK BROOKFIELD, JAMES OATES, W. D. BARNETT, CHARLIE MARTINSON, BILLY JEWELL, TED McLAUGHLIN, TED HOGAN, JACK FLYNN and TED SINCLAIR.

IN W.A.

MONTY MILLER, MICK SAWTELL, ALEX AUWERT, ALEX. HORROCKS, WILLIAM JOHNSTON, FRED. LUNN, JACK GOLLER, GEORGE HANSCOMBE and CHRIS PARKINSON.

IN NEW ZEALAND.

BOB SEMPLE, FRED. COOKE, JIM THORNE, PETER FRASER, TOM BRINDLE, and WILLIAM McMANUS.

IN VICTORIA.

JACK CURTAIN and THE TWO BROTHERS, GRANT.

TWENTY-ONE OF THESE MEN ARE STILL IN GAOL, AND, WITHOUT THE AID OF YOU, FELLOW-WORKERS, MANY OF THEM WILL BE THERE FOR A LONG WHILE.

WHILE THESE MEN WERE OUT THEY FOUGHT FOR YOU AND YOUR FREEDOM.

CONDITIONS ARE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING WHICH MAKE IT IMPERATIVE THAT THEY SHOULD BE SET FREE.

YOU WILL BE NEEDING THEIR HELP IN THE NEAR FUTURE, BUT APART FROM THIS SENSE OF SELF-PRESERVATION, YOU SHOULD NOT FORGET THAT IT IS "UP TO YOU" NOW, TO FIGHT FOR THEM.

The question as to whether any or all of the men were guilty of the charges preferred against them is one which need not be dealt with now, but organised labour should (we claim) use every effort to have the whole matter re-opened and endeavour in future to prevent the possibility of what appears to be a sorry miscarriage of justice.

Should your union deem it advisable to comply with the request herein set down a meeting of all concerned can be called and a committee appointed to devise ways and means whereby the matter may be carried to a successful issue.

Yours in unity,
W.M. MACPHERSON.

DEFENCE AGITATION.

The following resolution was carried almost unanimously by Sydney Branch, No. 2 of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers:

"That this branch emphatically protests against the sentences and demands the release of the I.W.W. members, whose only crime was that of opposing conscription and working class oppression, and calls on other unions to enter an emphatic protest against the savage sentences and demand the release of these men.

A.W.U. MEN AND THE DEFENCE.

The shearers and shed hands' meeting at Room 24, Trades Hall, Sydney, last Friday evening was packed to an overflow—the attendance being about 200, and the admittance strictly the production of an A.W.U. member's ticket.

The business meeting was brisk, decisive, and of good rebel calibre. When it was moved "that a delegate be elected from the A.W.U. meeting to represent them morally and financially on the Defence Committee of the I.W.W. and other men now in gaol," the adoption

was received with tense determination—unanimously.

Mr. Aubrey was elected delegate from the A.W.U. to the Defence Committee, and he stated, in reply, that one of the imprisoned men was a close personal friend of his for about 15 years, etc., etc.

There is no doubt at all that these A.W.U. men of this particular meeting are hand in hand and eye to eye with you in your fight to secure the release of the 12 men of the Industrial Workers of the World and also of all other working class fighters who are in prison throughout Australia.

After the business meeting, I produced "protest" forms for signatures, and those who had not already signed same simply rushed to do so. Some of them asked for forms to take away with them to the back blocks to have been filled in. They were men from the East, the West, and up Queensland way, and they stated they represented the opinions of the many they had left behind in the bearing districts.

Having supported the bulk of these men (the striker element) in the public press during the strike campaign, I was allowed special privileged admittance to report on this meeting, and was rather overawed with the sweeping adoption of the resolution to support the men now awaiting their appeals. One could almost imagine the gaol men already outside the prison walls!

BETSY H. MATTHIAS.

SYMPATHY WITH I.W.W.

The Coledale Miners' Union has forwarded to the Prime Minister the following resolution:

"This meeting of Coledale miners emphatically protests against the harsh and unjust treatment meted out to twelve members of the Industrial Workers of the World by a class biased judge and we as industrialists demand their immediate release from prison."

—D. T., Dec. 28, 1916.

Our Moral Codes.

The great work before the I.W.W. is to give to the working class a philosophy for the basis of an ethical code that will be working class in character.

The codes that are handed to us today by the different subsidised institutions of the master class are so stupid that were it not for the power of the class state no sane man would think of obeying them. Modern capitalism, with its accursed greed for gold, has altered and arranged the teachings of the early Christian movement to suit its own ends, thereby ushering in the age of Puritanism with its "turn the other cheek" and "thrift for the worker" philosophy.

The "boss" is out to get as much work for as little pay as he can force the worker to accept, and while on this business he doesn't take any notice of the Puritan morals he helped to coin. In this class struggle Labor's fighters have been shot and batoned by hired thugs or thrown into prisons at the command of capitalist attorneys; when the "boss" is fighting the working man he believes that might is right. Let the workers threaten his profits and instantly his smug, worse-serve countenance wears the expression of a Bengal tiger.

HE doesn't care a damn about the "camel and the eye of a needle" or the "pie in the sky" stunt; he is out to get his pie right here, and the only place on earth he can get it is out of the workers' hides.

Puritan morals are for us, not for the master class.

We have to admit, that constituted as society is at present Right and Wrong cut no ice so long as the boss has the might. He has the "might" because we are disunited, but we can organise our might into One Big Union, and defy HIS ethics.

The I.W.W. is building the One Big Union, and we are going to fight whilst hunger and want are found among millions of workers and while the boss feeds himself, his pets and poodles on the best.

If our actions add to the happiness and well-being of the working class IT IS MORAL from our point of view.

We refuse to scab upon one another, in spite of the dictates of craft union officials; we will make an injury to one member of the working class the concern of all.

The I.W.W. has no use for, and never will have any use for the morals of the masters. They have turned the revolutionist of Nazareth into a canting slave philosopher: "Blessed are ye that hunger for my sake"—the boss's sake. Blessed are they that cringe and cry when their fellow-workers are on strike, and bear meekly the unemployment forced upon them by the boss!

The hypocrites know that ten times as much is lost in wages through enforced unemployment than through strikes.

The capitalist institutions of church and State impose, under heavy penalties, on the workers moral codes that are bad in matter, hypocritical in application and out of order as far as the working class is concerned.

JAMES POPE.

This sickness and want of reason which is most opposed to culture, and which is called Nationalism—this neurose nationale from which Europe is suffering acutely Nietzsche.

Writers should note that long-winded articles about nothing in particular, and written in pencil, cannot be accepted. Short illustrative articles, dealing with current events, stand the best chance of insertion.

Direct Action



WEEKLY
OFFICIAL ORGAN
of the
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF
THE WORLD.

(Australian Administration)
Office: 403 Sussex Street, Sydney,
Australia.

Subscriptions: 4/ per year; New Zealand,
6/ per year; Foreign, 8/ per year.

HEADQUARTERS, I.W.W. (Australia):
403 SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS: 164 W.
Washington Street, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

Industrial Unions.

The Industrial Workers of the World always emphasise the supreme importance of organising the workers upon the best lines, that is to say, upon scientific lines. Obviously, if unionism is good, the more perfect the union the better must be its results.

Craft or Trades Unions came into being because the workers recognised the value of solidarity in dealing with the boss.

They were in the long ago the expression of the industry of the time. These were the good old days of "shop" production, when one craft was clearly and easily distinguished from its neighbour, and when the employee had quite a good chance of, some day, becoming an employer.

No wonder the motto was the mild demand of a "fair day's pay for a fair day's work!" But with all their mildness the Trades Unions had to fight for their existence through entanglements of prejudice and bombardments of slander and criminal charges.

It was not until 1824 that the English Government legalised working-class combinations, and this action steeled to some extent the flow of convicts into Australia. The craft unions, while they were expressions of industry, did good work, and while small business was the rule the small union continued to do good work.

We find no fault with the craft unions up to that stage, but small production has gone and in its place stand monster factories and forests of machinery. The days of big business have arrived, craft lines have been forever erased, and dozens of trades have been rolled into one industry.

Yet, in spite of the fact that the conditions which produced the old unionism have ceased to exist, the craft unions are still the organisations to which the workers look for deliverance.

Right here is where the I.W.W. quarrel with the Trades Unions. Production to-day is on industrial lines, and unionism should therefore be on industrial, AND NOT ON CRAFT, lines.

But we go further than the old unions in declaring that we are organising, not for fair wages, but, to overthrow the wages system and take "the world for the world's workers."

We claim, since there is only one working class, that there should be only one union—a union of that working class, and towards this end we are advocating ONE BIG UNION.

By linking up the industrial unions when formed we shall bring about this One Big Union.

The attempt to combat modern capitalism by the outgrown organisations of labour is quite as stupid and hopeless as facing a modern machine gun with a blunderbuss.

Happily for the working class the tendency is now to discard the "old" unions and construct the "new," and this tendency is nowhere more apparent than among the young members of the unions. The old members, being half fossilised, are, as is the case with most old persons, too conservative to venture into new fields; the old system is good enough; it was good enough for them half a century

ago, and it should be good enough for us! But IT IS NOT good enough for the I.W.W.! Neither will it much longer be good enough for the younger members of the working class outside the I.W.W.

Labour's organisations must be perfect; they must be scientific, and must towards that end be brought into harmony with the economic advance of capitalist methods!

It is imperative that this be done, and WE who want the world are going to do it.

The industrial unions can have no better recommendation than the savage treatment its propagandists meet with at the hands of the captains of industry; THEY fear the coming of the O.B.U., and, therefore, WE should hasten it!

By The Way.

THE YEAR 1946.

Senator Pearce writes to the "Bulletin," complaining that it's all a lie: he is not 44 at all; was 46 last birthday. Some men have cruel luck; in fact there are times when whole nations, and even empires, have a bad run of it, too. Just imagine, dear reader, the fate of the hated Hun, if the war had broken out just about two years ago when our leading journalists, politicians, and spiritual advisers, were all under military age. Why, Berlin would have been "ours" long ago. The year 1916 in Australia will go down to posterity as the fashionable year of 46-year-olds, and posterity will surely not be so unkind as to remember that the 46-ers of 1916 must have been well under 45 two and a half years earlier—when the war began.

WHEN JUDGES FALL OUT.

Thus spake the Chief Justice of N.S.W. in ordering a new trial in the case of King—"Certain witnesses for the prosecution were admittedly accomplices, one being deeply concerned in the operations. Yet Judge Docker had taken upon himself the responsibility of telling the jury that this man was not an accomplice. In the case of such strong evidence of complicity, this ruling seemed to him (the Chief Justice) such a departure from the principles of criminal trials as to make it improper for the verdict to stand."

The law would be alright, were it always administered by men who are above class bias. But this doesn't happen often enough for us to have faith in it.

SHOOTING AND STRANGLING.

The post-mortem examination on Franz and Kennedy, who were hanged last week, disclosed the fact that death in each case, was due to strangulation. These men are said to have murdered a policeman, and it seems that they did. It is a sad, and a mad, and a bad thing for a man, or men, to murder anyone—even a policeman. The fact that the above-named reckoned the policeman had injured them doesn't mitigate the crime; neither does the fact that they were more or less drunk at the time.

But what about the hangman who committed two murders for nothing at all, but his blood-money?

DEGENERATES AND OTHERS.

It is alleged by the police that James Wilson confessed to a murder, and blames the bad influence of the I.W.W. for leading to his act. The I.W.W. has never taught anything but industrial revolution: neither has its literature. It has written and preached in the open light of day always. Those workers whose brains are so deranged by the system as not to know the difference between social war and individual spite, between social restitution and individual garroting, are respectfully requested to first earn a stretch in gaol on their own responsibility, and on release to become agents for the police after the manner of their kind. The I.W.W. needs their room for reasonable men.

THE DEPRESSION IN THE TRIPE MARKET.

A decent eat of tripe used to cost a deaner—but now a surfeit is obtainable for a copper, or for nothing, if you're in Melbourne and go up to "The House." It appears true—yet seems incredible—that a bunch of sober men in the last named place have recently decided, after much abuse of the gift of speech, to close the I.W.W. Hold my lips together so that I won't get 15 years for laughing! The I.W.W. has no present intention of being closed up. Hughes might as well pass a law making to-morrow's daylight illegal. We have relentless, inexorable social laws on our side, and he has the laws up against him. If he had read more and spent less time being an Empire Saver, an Amateur Anzac, we wouldn't have to remind him of such an obvious fact.

MENZIES.

From America.

A Suppressed Poem.

(By ROBERT BURNS).

The appended suppressed poem of Robert Burns was recited to me from memory by a Burns enthusiast of 75 years of age. It is more than 20 years since he got the poem from the Poet's Box.

JAS. BIRRELL.

How blindly we are taught to view the Divine Power.

To gull the mob to keep them under,
The ancients tell their tales o' wonder,
A pious fraud, a Holy blunder,

A rainbow sign,
An earthquake, or a blast o' thunder,
Or Hell Divine.

To those who are inclined to swallow doses,
A wondrous story nothing loses.
The dexterous feats ascribed to Moses
Are proofs so plain.
By sleight-o'-haun Hermon poses
Lugged emain.

To those that believe in tradition
Let sense-tak' place of superstition,
The Royal magic competition
And Sacred fountain,
O' could a midge by faith's volition,
Enlarge to a mountain.

The God o' mercy just and good
Held forth as in angry mood
Drooned the world in a flood
To punish Haman,
Turned waters into Blood,
Just like a demon.

He murdered thousands in a trice,
Swarmed Egypt of rogues and lice,
Had he made coos o' sheep and rice
His hungry hordes then,
Wad, I like ane, hae got a slice,
And thanked the Lord then.

W! hokus-pokus, rod and haun,
Like mother's goose, his magic wand,
They could the elements command,
As legion run,
Divide the sea or burn the land,
Or stop the Sun.

The great bombasts surpasses
Like dykes the ocean stood in masses,
They had fleetest prophets, speaking asses,
Forby a saut wife,
And amorous ghosts o'er cam' the lasses,
Wha lived that life.

They said Samson's strength lay in his hair,
Their sterling walters jealous were.
Clouds o' fire cam thro' the air
Like brimstone danders;
Saints lived in fire by virtue rare
Like Salamanders.

The Apostle Paul by fancy whim
Soared up to heaven as in a dream,
But Satan brought him back, it wad seem,
So says himself!
But hoo could Nick to Heaven climb
Wha's chained ta Hell.

This dam'd and wily serpent Nick,
Promised long a mighty trick,
He played the trick on God's first-born,
An' got him scourged,
Nailed ta a stick,
And crooned w! thorns.

Now search the subject thro' the peice,
It's fraught w! blunders such as these,
That Reverend Priests their flocks may fleece
W! wily conscience,
And teach human being by degrees
Ta swallow nonsense.

The Royal Dignitaries o' each function
Set God's Kingdom up for auction,
A lump and bargain
Drive silly mortals ta destruction
By their dam'd jargon.

But commonsense shall gain the day,
Loomed by Nature's glorious ray,
Atheism shall flee away
W! priests and de'il's;
Sound reason shall her sceptre sway
Hard at her heels.

(From "The Spur.")

SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

For

"DIRECT ACTION."

Enclosed please find P.O. for 4/ for
which please send "Direct Action" for
one year to the following address:—

Name

Address

FILL IT IN NOW!

The Truth About Everett.

EVERETT'S BLOODY SUNDAY.

The Sydney papers have lately been gloating over the wholesale murdering of workers at Everett (U.S.A.).

For the benefit of the public, whom the papers love to deceive, we give a full account of the affair, as told by the Everett Workers' Defence Committee:—

—What was it, then, that happened in Everett?

THE CAUSE

Everett Wash., "the City of Smokestacks," as it is sometimes called, is a small, but thriving town, between thirty and forty miles from Seattle. When we say that it is a thriving town, we mean that it thrives from the point of view of the masters.

But the share of prosperity that has fallen to the workers is a very small one. The saw-mill workers are paid disgracefully low wages for a ten-hour day. The shingle-weavers there had been on strike since last May. The longshoremen had also been involved in industrial conflict. On the Pacific Coast, the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association, the Commercial Clubs—and other employers' unions—had been straining every nerve to fight the organisation of labor and to bring about their longed-for "Open Shop."

Labor bodies came in for their share of persecution at the hands of the profit-lusting bosses. The first intimation in Everett came in the form of the sudden stopping of an I.W.W. meeting. The speaker was taken from town in an automobile and severely beaten up.

"LEGAL" LAWLESSNESS.

After this, the outrages became common. Union men were arrested, held incommunicado in jail, and subjected to daily beatings. The so-called "prosperous and respectable" element of the community—composed of members of the Commercial Club, some slum-sweepers, and the obedient officers of the law, who were the abject tools of the lumber interests—formed a Vigilance Committee. This committee immediately went to work jailing, slugging and deporting.

The workers of Everett, and the more enlightened and liberal of the business and professional men, were indignant at this government by thuggery and requested the I.W.W. in Seattle to test this arbitrary and unexpected prohibition of free speech. Accordingly, on Monday, October 30, about thirty men left Seattle for Everett by steamer, with the intention of peaceably trying out their right to hold a street meeting in the town. At the dock they were met by a large party of gunmen, armed with saps and guns, and with scarfs around their necks, which they drew up, masking their faces. The men were loaded into waiting machines and driven out to Beverly Park, a wild patch of woodland on the outskirts of the town. Here they were received by another gang of Commercial Club belots in full sapping trim. The men were released one by one and forced to run the gauntlet between the long ranks of the gangsters, all fit them bloodthirsty and many drunk on bootleg whiskey. A perfect hail of blows fell on the bodies and heads of this handful of defenceless workers; and the air was full of vile abuse of labor and threats against unions, together with some burials for the sacred "Open Shop." Some of the men were also dragged so roughly across cattle guards on the car tracks that the guards were found, next day, to be clogged with blood. Also, the men were searched and those who had any money were robbed of their few hard earned dollars by these wealthy fiends.

EVERETT INDIGNATION.

After the little party had struggled back to Seattle, a number of them were treated at the City Hospital for troubles ranging all the way from serious internal injuries, broken shoulders and arms, to scalp wounds, lacerations and bruises.

The next day a number of Everett citizens visited the scene of this drunken and outlaw exhibition of mob-violence, and viewed the evidence in the shape of torn and stained clothes and blood-stained hats.

The report of this atrocity aroused the wrath of the better portion of Everett's citizens. Several ministers spoke from the pulpit on the matter, and those local papers which were not subsidized by the lumber barons were loud in protests. The growing sentiment among the people of Everett determined the Free Speech Committee to make yet another effort to regain for the people the rights sliced from them by this gang of masked and armed prowlers. It was thought that, on a Sunday and in broad daylight, there would be too much publicity for the official criminals to indulge their bloodlust.

THE DAY OF BLOOD.

It was decided to hold a meeting in Everett on Sunday, November 5th, at 2 p.m. A big attendance of friendly citizens was promised by local sympathisers. A hand bill was widely distributed in both Everett and Seattle

which read as follows:

"CITIZENS OF EVERETT!"

Attention!

A meeting will be held at the corner of Hewitt and Westmore Aves, on Sunday, Nov. 5th, 2 p.m. Come and help to maintain your and our constitutional rights.

—Committee.

The above was given out some days before the event. It certainly does not appear as though desperados, plotting a dark deed of murder, would advertise the fact by means of handbills! Yet, the bosses would characterize this simple announcement of a peaceful meeting as "inciting to riot" and "intent to resist lawful authority!"

The steamer "Verona" left Seattle docks with some 250 men on board. About forty left later by the S.S. "Callista," but never reached their destination.

The men aboard the "Verona" had all paid their passages in the regular manner, entitling them to a landing in Everett. They were cheerful on the boat, and full of enthusiasm. The conquest of free speech seemed assured. They never for a moment considered that the Everett mob—at whose hands they previously suffered such grievous outrage—would dare to continue their criminal tactics in the light of day and before a host of conscientious citizens.

Therefore, they sang that day on the boat and made merry. They were class-conscious men, enlightened workmen who believed in the glorious future of their class, and who were willing to give their all in the great fight of the workers for bread, happiness and liberty. Little did they think, that bright morning, that the hour was so near in which some of them would be called upon for the supreme of all sacrifices—life itself.

There were men of many trades and callings on the boat: laborers, loggers, railroad clerks, seamen, farm hands; members of the Longshoremen's Union, the I.W.W., the Truckmen, the Seamen's Union and others. But they were all united in the one common desire: the desire to see established free expression of the voice of labor.

THE ASSAULT.

But not a man of them set foot to land. Arrived at Everett, they were greeted from the dock by the voice of Sheriff McRae, the same man who had headed the other outbreaks of violence. He stood there with his mob of deputies behind him. They stood behind him upon the dock and others behind barricades; yet more were in the shelter of adjacent warehouses. On a tug and on a dock on the further side of the boat, were other bands of desperados. And this time the gunmen were armed with high-power rifles and the entire stock of ammunition in the town had been appropriated by the Commercial Club. The citizens were massed upon the hills and high places near by, for they were not allowed upon the docks by the gunmen. The rule of the thugs was in complete sway.

"Who is your leader?" shouted Sheriff McRae.

"We are all leaders!" replied the men, who had no intention of having one of their number used as a scapegoat.

"Well, you can't land here!" cried the Sheriff; and his hand flew to his gunholster. And then came a volley of shots, pouring into the crowd of men standing upon the unprotected docks. This outrage, this absolutely illegal and uncalled-for assault upon peaceful, legitimate passengers, naturally enraged the men. Out of the 250 who were there, even the Prosecuting Attorney Hessel is reported to have said that not more than from 18 to 25 of the men were armed with revolvers; and this is merely guess work. And this against that small army of gunmen with Winchester!

Facing the sheriff and his detail—on the further side of the "Verona"—were more men on a tugboat and a wharf. Their fire swept the steamer and must have also done much destruction among their accomplices on the opposite wharf, according to the reports of many witnesses. In fact, it is more than probable that the mortality among the sheriff's posse was caused by the wild firing of the other section opposite them, on the other pier.

Upon the bloodstained decks of the vessel, the dead and dying began to drop. Eye-witnesses assert that some wounded or killed men toppled over the railings into the water, also that others leaped over the side and were shot while swimming. Five men were killed upon the boat. Counting those who fell from the ship, the number of dead may be as much as twelve.

With her grim cargo of dead and wounded the "Verona" turned about and made back for Seattle. On the way she passed the steamer

Chidley.

It was with profound sorrow that the thousands of friends of the late W. J. Chidley heard of his death.

Expressions of sympathy were heard on every hand, for the persecution of Chidley by the authorities had made him notorious and had gained him thousands of friends.

Almost everyone is conversant with the facts of Chidley's persecution—or shall I say his martyrdom.

For the past six years he had advocated his sex theories as expounded in his book, "The Answer."

He had also adopted a rational dress, and from the time when he first appeared in public advocating the natural life until his tragic death in an asylum, Chidley had been prosecuted 18 times, gaol'd four times, confined in Callan Park Asylum twice, in Kenmore on one occasion, and twice taken to the Reception House. All this because he was determined to speak the truth.

His book, "The Answer," was destroyed and suppressed, but it re-appeared again in a revised edition.

The recent trial at which Chidley's sanity or insanity was determined was but a hollow mockery. The result was a foregone conclusion. His case was an example of what British justice may do.

No justice has ever been shown to a reformer. Where was the justice in the treatment of Galileo, of Socrates; and in the treatment of all the martyrs to the cause of science and progress?

All who knew Chidley personally had the greatest respect and admiration for him. His whole life reflected the purity and nobility of his motives.

For six years he fought single-handed against tremendous odds.

Opposed by convention, by prejudice, false morality, by vested interests, and by an autocratic Government, Chidley had fought gamely to the end—a rebel he lived and a rebel he died.

At last his enemies have won—so they consider. But, though Chidley is silenced, his teachings live.

Socrates met his death at the hands of the authorities of his day, but his philosophy remains—an immortal monument to his name.

Will history be repeated?

Is Chidley and his doctrine silenced forever? Is it the end, or is it but the beginning? Is it death, or is it victory?

HARRY MEATHERINGHAM.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

All articles should be in ink, on one side only of the paper, and owing to our limited space and the necessity for concentrating on the conspiracy cases, should be of not more than six or seven hundred words.

Owing to the seizure of I.W.W. property in Melbourne, we are unable to publish list of subscribers to Melbourne Defence Fund until same is returned by the police.

There is ONLY one Union. The Class Union. Within it, there is a place for every worker in industry. There is NO foreigner, save the exploiter. The abolition of the wage system is inevitable. Therefore, working men and women, organise to-day into the ONLY Union, the Industrial Workers of the World.

"Carlita," aboard of which were thirty-eight free speech warriors. The captain of the "Verona" stopped the "Carlita" and cried to them:

"For God's sake, don't land they'll kill you! We have dead and wounded aboard now!"

Thereupon the "Carlita" put about and returned to Seattle.

Over a hundred have murder charges against them. Against others, serious charges will also be laid. The employers will spare no time or money in the effort to put these active rebels behind the bars!

All precedents of law are being overturned by the prosecution. They are endeavoring to prove guilt of murder by showing that men have assembled, or talked, for purposes that unexpectedly led to killing. This is what is known as constructive crime and has been proved in famous cases to be utterly opposed to jurisprudence and the just administration of the law. The law requires the proving of immediate acts in the course of the alleged crime, and not of previous acts which were not designed to result in a certain way. In returning to the method of using the policy of constructive murder, the prosecution is abandoning all legal precedent and is returning to an old archaic interpretation of law, which is discredited by all civilised nations.

Then and Now

"All soldiers with wives and children not otherwise provided for, can have Christmas dinner in the Domain if they register their names by Saturday."

—The Sun.

"In Great Britain and Australia unemployed on an unprecedented scale will inevitably follow the ending of the war."

—Australian Worker.

When unemployed in thousands roam the streets in misery, And we're a breadline stretching from the railway to the quay, When you see the haggard faces with their looks of dull despair, And above the cry of anguish, dark forebodings fill the air, Then maybe you'll get wise; Perhaps you'll organise When you hear your children pleading for the food the boss denies.

When you see horror spreading and the wolf snarls at the door, You learn with grim reality the sufferings of the poor; You will know the kind of poverty that burns into the soul, And the sting of pious charity—the pauper's meagre dole; Then maybe you'll despise The parson's sniffling lies, You'll forget the politician, and as workers organise.

PETE.

WHERE DO YOU BELONG?

Do you belong in somebody's kitchen, attic or basement, doing their dirty work, attending to their most intimate personal needs, hiring yourselves for all the time you are awake into the services of others who treat you as an inferior being?

Do you belong there? Are you satisfied with your lot? Are you content to be a slave?

Or do you wish to have shorter hours, higher wages and respectful treatment from your employers?

If so, you belong in the Domestic Workers' Industrial Union, an organisation of domestic slaves who have broken away from the monotonous drudgery of their existence, who have rebelled at the outrages imposed on them, and have banded together in their determined effort to better their condition.

They realise that their only hope lies in arousing the workers to a knowledge of their own power, and that they only strength lies in organisation. They invite you to join them, knowing that your wrongs are their wrongs, and that an injury to one is the concern of all.

Don't hold back and allow them to fight your battles. Don't sit idly by while the struggle against the enemy, which is your enemy, is going on, and then step forward in the end and reap the benefits you don't deserve.

Endorse them, support them, join them. That is where your interests lie. Have you served others so long you have forgotten you have interests of your own? Join the Domestic Workers' Industrial Union. They need you, and you need them. THAT IS WHERE YOU BELONG.

It includes housemaids, cooks, second girls, nursemaids, laundresses, seamstresses, and all workers engaged by the hour, day or month in private families.

—From "Solidarity."

WHY YOU SHOULD READ "DIRECT ACTION."

1. Because it prints the latest industrial news (both foreign and local). Critical articles dealing with all phases of Industrialism are a speciality.

2. D.A. prints cartoons and poems that no other paper in Australia publishes.

3. D.A. panders to no political party. Being non-political, it exposes political piffle.

4. D.A. has no space for sentimental stories or racy gossip. It is out to deliver the goods that is, the scientific knowledge.

5. The fact that D.A. has been more abused and persecuted than any other paper in Australia is sufficient testimony to the esteem in which it is held by plutocrats. This is because plutocracy knows that D.A. knows and will let the workers know those things plutocracy does not wish them to know.

"Better a thousandfold abuse of 'free speech' than denial of 'free speech'."

The abuse dies in a day, but the denial slays the life of the people and entombs the hope of the race."

—Charles Bradlaugh.

Rockhampton Workers, Awake! The Tramway Union. Defence Fund.

Fellow-Worker Jackson outlined the position of the I.W.W. at Mount Morgan last Friday evening, and cleared the atmosphere to a great extent, as there has been a strong prejudice against the organisation in the part.

Jackson, in his remarks, had his time well occupied in dealing with the I.W.W. and the case for the men, and contended that the minds of the workers should not become antagonised on the issue at stake. He made an appeal to those present to have our fellow-workers released.

F.W. Clarke forwarded £1 15s. less fare, for collection at the meeting.

The council, in their letter in reply to the application for the last meeting, stated that in future they were not disposed to issue permits to irresponsible persons. Judging by the remarks of F.W. Jackson, and taking into consideration the local Bumbles, this can only be expected. If F.W. Jackson could only remain in the Mount for a month or so, a struggle would take place, and probably some of the tinpot exploiters would be brought to their senses.

Most of the Councillors and the Mayor are either hotelkeepers, or have interests in small businesses in the city. The I.W.W. have big guns, and they are very effective, when used scientifically.

H. CLARK.

BACK ON THE JOB.

F. W. Huntingford and myself being forced to leave Port Pirie owing to the shortage of coal, proceeded down the line among the cockles, where, we had been informed, the lowest wage was £3 a week.

We soon discovered that £3 a week was but a dream.

After working 3 days—46 hours—we were "fired," and decided to try the Walaroo mines, but owing to our being strangers we could not find an exploiter there, so we "beat" our way back to Pirie.

We are now on the job in the smelters, and putting in the "dope" very successfully.

The slaves in this industry are working under terrible conditions; the boss will not hear of any kind of Union, except the A.S.A., which is a boss's outfit.

The slaves on the wharf are talking about striking after the New Year, if the boss doesn't come through with a 2s rise.

At present some of them are working twelve hours a day, while others are walking the wharf with empty stomachs.

The majority of the workers here are disgusted at the savage sentences imposed upon members of the I.W.W. by a class biased judge.

The working class of Port Pirie have never had any effective organisation, but in the near future they will have to organise under the banner of the I.W.W., whether they like it or not.

Craft Unionism has showed its uselessness here, as elsewhere, but the workers are still "hanging on" by the last thread.

Soon that thread must break, and make way for a new and more scientific organisation.

TRIFF.

BRUTALITY.

In life Mr. W. J. Chidley was ridiculed and condemned by the greater part of the medical profession in N.S.W.

Few people will have forgotten the learned arguments used by these intellectuals against him, and whose evidence was used to commit him to Knemore Asylum in 1916.

One genius in mental diseases opined, that Chidley was insane because he stuck to his opinions in the face of persecution.

Another declared him insane because he was honest, while another explained that a man with a fixed idea was sure to be insane.

That kind of damned nonsense, called expert evidence, was all, that decided his insanity, it wasn't much, but it was enough—less than that would have been sufficient; THE MAN WAS WANTED, and that sums up the position.

The hatred and persecution of the man by specialists (?) and others was bad enough but more was to follow.

Not satisfied with torturing him while alive, at least one of them did not hesitate to have a passing kick at the corpse, by attempting to smudge the memory of the man he hated in life.

While the authorities were trying to fix a charge against Chidley, they, on several occasions, tested his blood for traces of syphilis.

The tests were always negative, and yet before the man is scarce cold, comes one who declares that his death was probably caused through syphilis.

One would have to search humanity through and through to find a person capable of stooping low enough to hurl such a scurrilous slander against a dead opponent.

The capitalist who to-day is the person possessing the power to bend others to his will, has three great assets which enable him to exploit the ignorant working class, viz., money, the church, and the law. He hands the wage slave only one-third of what he produces because the workers toiling such long hours create a dearth of employment. It pays the master to keep it so, in order that he may use the unemployed to suit his desires. The vacuum-headed slave, from the smelly factory, works six days a week, and on the seventh carries his weary frame to the church, and the clergyman, who is receiving the fat salary of £6 weekly, hypnotises him by Holy Books and other bunkum, and drills the extraordinary statements into his head that, under the present system, all men are brothers, and should be at peace, for after they pass away from this planet they will be taken unto God—the Holy Spectre, and for their previous hard sweating will get a good reward in heaven. The Industrial Workers of the World aim at the organisation, and finally the emancipation of the working class. We believe that no man should be unemployed while those "at work" could, by reducing the hours, give all employment. Furthermore, we say that the workers are justified in taking any steps whatever to overthrow the system, because in every industrial upheaval the boss has not hesitated to bludgeon, gao, or shoot them in his desire to force them to the factories to create wealth and power for him. The master is a cruel, relentless foe, who uses the Law to assist him in destroying anything that will hinder him in exploiting the working class. That is why 30 working class fighters are now entombed in hellish gaols in Australasia. Workers, you have nothing in common with a master class who is robbing you and killing you wholesale under the unhealthy conditions under which you work.

"The hours are long,
The pay is small,
So take your time,
And buck them all."

SEJAM.

UNLAWFUL ASSOCIATIONS.

The I.W.W. is now an unlawful association.

Mr. W. M. Hughes has decreed that any organisation which favors, advocates or practises tactics likely to impede the production of commodities, and of nationally required commodities in particular, is liable to be declared unlawful, and any of its members practising or preaching such tactics are liable to go to gaol for six months.

The I.W.W., being an organisation which desired the workers to live a long while advised them not to work too hard, and for doing so fell under the ban of the Unlawful Associations Bill.

Now comes the news through the daily press—no scarce headlines this time, however—that the Farmers and Settlers' Association have decided to "slow down" this season in the wheat growing industry, by refusing to sow wheat, unless some grievance of theirs is settled to their satisfaction.

The farmers and settlers have evidently been studying I.W.W. literature, but whether they have or not they are beginning to believe in direct action methods of getting what they want.

Still, whether they are respectable farmers and settlers or whether they are common wage-plugs makes no difference to the operation of this Bill in democratic Australia—there is not, and never has been, one law here for employers and one for employees!

The I.W.W. recognise that, even if the farmers don't, and we are waiting for Mr. Hughes to investigate this case, commence a crusade of vilification against the farmers, have them prosecuted for conspiracy to bring about a "slow down" in the production of the nation's staple article, gao the leaders for life, and index the association along with the I.W.W.—it's lonely out here by ourselves.

"Men of England! Heirs of Glory,
Heroes of unwritten story,
Rise like lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number;
Shake your chains to earth like dew,
Which in sleep have fallen on you;
Ye are many, they are few."

There is only ONE working class, logically there should be only ONE union.
That is the I.W.W.

In the issue of the 23rd I noticed an article headed "James McStomachache," which referred to the comments on, and the rejection of the I.W.W. by James McCarthy, President of the Tramway Union, in that democratic paper, "The Daily Telegraph."

I am a tramway man, and on behalf of the tramwaymen (bone heads excepted) I wish to repudiate the statements of this creature who claims to be the mouthpiece of all tramwaymen and trade unionists. The majority of the men in the service are in sympathy with the fighters who are now rotting in Big Bingy's dungeons. Such men as McCarthy are not taken seriously by tramwaymen, who now realise that McCarthy and a few others at the head of the tramway union have been guilting them for the last ten years. So exit, McCarthy, next elections! I would like to comment on the unjust treatment of I.W.W. men in the tramway service. One man was suspended for a fortnight for being a member, with loss of pay for that period; several others were sent before the Commissioner and dismissed by that monarch, without the right to appeal. Some of them, who have spent the best part of their lives in the service, and have wives and children depending on them, are now in search of another master, simply because they belonged to an organisation branded criminal by jingo journals and politicians.

Yes, the majority of tramway men have a lot of time for the I.W.W., but very little time for their spineless president, McCarthy.

OCULT.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who make up the employing class have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organise as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centring of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one an unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interests of the working class upheld only by an organisation formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword: "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organised not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organising industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

MILITANT PROPAGANDISTS.

The following resolution was carried at the meeting held last Saturday night: "That we pledge ourselves in every possible way to urge the unions and councils to make incessant demands for the terms of peace." The Militants of Labor are opposed to militarism in every form. It was forcibly contended that the public feeling lately aroused in opposition to conscription must now have its logical corollary in a bold and determined movement for peace. Members protested against the proposed legislation to make the I.W.W. an illegal organisation. Notice of motion was given that the Militants elect permanent officers. Next meeting, Saturday night at Trades' Hall. Militant Laborites invited.

MAY FRANCIS, Secretary.
—"Labor Call."

THE GAOL ARGUMENT

Funds are very necessary in this FIGHT FOR THE LIVES OF our class brothers. FELLOW-WORKERS, IT IS UP TO YOU! GET BUSY AND KEEP BUSY IN YOUR UNION HALLS AND LEAGUES. Keep the workers alive to the danger that threatens. Arrange monster protests, agitate and organise unceasingly and forward unlimited funds for the Defence to

J. R. WILSON.

Box 98, Haymarket P.O., Sydney.

Previously acknowledged	£ s d
T. Walsh	131 6 5
Ball money transferred to D. and R.	75 0 0
Brooklyn Station Shed Hands	2 0 10
Collected by (Griffiths)	0 12 6
Thos. Anderson	1 0 4
Donated, Coopers' Union	2 2 0
Collected Randwick Workshops	1 0 10
H. Cook	0 5 0
T. W. Toohy	0 2 0
Ball money transferred to D. & R. C.	75 0 0
Donated Textile Workers' Union	2 2 0
Balances Previous Defence Fund	10 0 0
Collected Railway Workshops	1 14 0
Collected "G. Jago"	1 12 0
Collected, C. Quilkey	0 16 0
Collected, T. Nelson	0 14 0
Collected, C. Nelson	2 12 4
Collected, F. Winsor	0 13 0
Collected, E. McLoughlin	2 11 0
W. Thomson	0 2 6
H. Trewon	0 5 0
Collection, Shearers and Shed Hands	3 10 0
Collection, John Kerr	0 18 9
Collection, Shearers, from "Worker"	6 10 0
Office	0 2 0
G. Jago	1 18 9
Collection, Bathurst Street	0 13 5
Collection, Bathurst Street	0 7 2
McIntyre	1 0 0
J. C. Thompson	1 0 0
Friend	0 5 0
Collected, A. R. Baker	1 10 0
Donation, J. S. Club	10 0 0
Collection, "Hugh Clark"	2 13 0
Amal. Miners' Union (Broken Hill)	100 0 0
Collected, J. Foley	1 6 6
	£ 443 10 3

Total income ending 27th Dec., 1916.

J. R. WILSON, Sec.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES. AS THE "BOSS" WOULD WISH THEM.

The working class and the employing class have everything in common. There need be no strife when hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few among the employing class have all the good things of life—THAT IS THE WILL OF GOD.

Between these two classes a more harmonious feeling should be encouraged; the workers should not organise as a class, but should work harder and longer, eat less, drink less, wear less, and see less, so that the employing class may successfully compete with other countries.

The concentration of industry into fewer and fewer hands is in the best interests of the workers; they should aid the employers to economise and thereby foster a state of affairs for the betterment of SOCIETY.

Unionism IS NOT necessary and should be dispensed with; a big saving would result, and the employing class, guided by the Divine Will of Providence, would administer to the needs of the MEEK AND LOWLY.

We should inscribe on our banner, "Be content with your lot," instead of "abolition of the wages system." We should work well and hard, and be thankful for what our learned, just and infallible judges offer us.

It is the historic mission of the working class to assist and prolong capitalism—no race of people could thrive without it.

By earnest co-operation with the employing class, the workers would be helping to abolish poverty, immorality and crime.

Humbleness and peace would reign on earth and Christ's mission would not have been in vain.

T.F.

SYDNEY LOCAL.

Meetings, &c.

Street Propaganda at Bathurst and Liverpool Streets every Friday and Saturday Evenings, at 8 p.m.; also Sunday Evening, at 7.

Meetings in Hall:

Sunday, 8 p.m.—Propaganda.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Economic Class.
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Business Meeting.
Saturday Evening.—Speakers' Class.

WANTED

A file of Volume I. of "Direct Action" is wanted at this office. Forward price of same.

Published by Tom Barker, of 28 Francis Street, Sydney, for the Workers' Defence and Release Committee, at 403 Sussex Street, Sydney, and printed by H. Cook and Co., 200 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.