

'An Injury to One an INJURY to All.'



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Defence Agitation.

QUEENSLAND.

Since the appearance of Tom Barker into this city, the I.W.W. has gained great strength, and increased in numbers. The local meetings have been very successful, large crowds taking in the dope and giving the various speakers a very attentive hearing. Besides open-air meetings, we have started educational classes. The subject last week was entitled, "Political Action v. Direct Action." It was very successful. We intend to go on with the classes. It seems that the workers here are beginning to realise that appealing to politicians to get them better conditions is obsolete, and are using united direct action.

All old ideas and institutions are gradually sinking into oblivion, and a consciousness arising in the minds of the workers that the "aims, ideas and tactics advocated by I.W.W. are scientific, and must be used if they want economic freedom." The butchers used direct action, and stopped work. They were successful in getting the demands they ceased work for. If, on the other hand, they had kept on working and used legal methods, they would have been in the bog-hole of oppression. Numerous other cases can be cited where the workers have applied the scientific methods of direct action and gained their demands. From Brisbane to Port Darwin the germ of Industrial Solidarity advocated by I.W.W. members, has spread, the slaves, up there, seeing the necessity of the ONE BIG UNION. Our paper is doing wonderful work. One gets the belly-ache after reading some of the tripe in the so-called Labor rags. Already we are getting together some good soap-box speakers who handle their subject with the greatest ease. The local also holds lectures on Sunday nights in the Trades Hall, and besides educating the workers, derive money for the upkeep of the movement. The Release Committee is doing splendid work. Large meetings in Brisbane. Last Friday we held a good meeting at Ipswich, and put the position of the 12 victims of the capitalist conspiracy. Next Wednesday Redbank is going to be visited, and other places of any importance. The lying tory rags of Australia had imbued the mind of the workers with hatred and prejudice against the imprisoned men, but Barker coming here has been the best thing that could have happened, because it has put a different construction on the case. Every union meeting addressed was convinced and has given us moral and financial support. All of the rebels are doing all they can for the boys. Speaking at meetings, on the job, and anything that will hasten the release of 12 men in the Capitalist Bastille. The I.W.W. is getting great support, because it has set the alarm clock in the brain of the misguided workers going and made them do a little keen thinking.

We realise that our efforts to improve working class conditions will be appreciated. Then the workers will stand together and bring about an unconditional surrender of the master class. Trusting all the boys inside and outside are well, and giving the slaves indigestion when they speak to them, and every best wish for your untiring effort to free 12 good working class fighters from the shackles of the Powers that be—

GEORGE HENRY.

CORRECTION.

SOUTH JOHNSTONE, QUEENSLAND.
£21. not, as advertised last week, £1.

SOUTH COAST.

Good reports continue to come in from the miners along the South Coast. Most of the lodges have passed resolutions of protest against the continued imprisonment of the I.W.W. men and have made substantial donations to the Defence Fund.

An interest in I.W.W.-ism has been aroused along the South Coast, and speakers from Sydney are continually asked for. Kill the I.W.W.? Bah!

Trades' Union Conference Re-Affirms its Previous Decision

Demanding Release of The 12 Imprisoned I. W. W. MEN.

We are Now Awaiting Result of the Appeal before Determining What ACTION will be TAKEN.

Mortlake Coal Lumpers Practice Go Slow.

Trouble appears to be brewing between the Coal-lumpers' Union and the Australian Gaslight Company's stevedore, Mr. E. K. Wild, who is responsible for the handling of the whole of the company's coal supplies.

Alderman O'Connor, who is the secretary of the Coal-lumpers' Union, yesterday said that about 60 members of the union had until last Friday been employed in discharging coal at the Mortlake gas works by Mr. Wild. They ceased work that day, and were not invited to resume work on the following day, despite the fact that two large colliers containing a couple of thousand tons of coal were undischarged. No intimation, Alderman O'Connor said, was given by Mr. Wild as to why the men's services were not required to unload the remaining coal, and they had remained idle ever since. The union had applied for and obtained permission from the Transport Group Board 22 to employ SIX men in a gang in place of FIVE, as hitherto on the hourly system. He did not, he said, know if this was the cause of the absence of an invitation to resume work, but the union certainly regarded it as a lock-out.

MR. WILD'S VERSION.

When the foregoing statements were brought under the notice of Mr. Wild, a vastly different aspect was put upon the case. "The union," Mr. Wild said, "knows perfectly well why there has been a cessation of work at Mortlake. The union has become seized with the determination to force the introduction of the SLOWING DOWN SYSTEM into the work of discharging the colliers, and recently made an application to Mr. Justice Edmunds for

permission to work six men in a gang instead of five. Mr. Justice Edmunds refused to entertain the request, and the union then went to the chairman of the Transport Group Board 22, with a result that permission was given to increase the number of men employed in each gang, provided a proportionate amount of coal was handled. This agreement," Mr. Wild said, "the union has failed to observe. In place of an honest attempt to follow out the natural corollary of more men more work, they have by deliberately adopting the GO-SLOW SYSTEM, attempted to impose the reverse. In other words, they want us to employ SIX MEN TO DO FIVE MEN'S WORK."

Giving a striking illustration of what he declared to be the "studied system of slowing down," Mr. Wild said that until recently for 25 years five men had been able, without any complaint, to handle 25 TONS OF COAL PER HOUR per day, but now they had fixed their maximum efforts at 10 TONS PER HOUR for each man. This meant that in place of a collier carrying 1000 tons of coal being discharged in 8 hours, under the easing-up process—which appears to have become an institution with the union—it would take four days to accomplish it. Mr. Wild made it clear that he was determined to fight the union's new method to the bitter end.

—S. M. Herald.

A POSER

"I am in favor of peace at any price," "Yes," replied the pessimist; "but suppose you wake up some morning and find you haven't got the price?"

Defence Agitation.

MELBOURNE.

If the kindly rays of the burning orb, with clear, delightful weather to match, are indications, then the I.W.W. is basking in the smiles of the fates that sway in the translucent atmospheric void are "determining the destinies of peoples." Sunday afternoons on the Yarra Bank have been so pleasant as to tempt the crowds in their thousands to hear the rebel brigade deliver the message of "better things and better times." Yet, despite the temptations so alluring to ordinary mortals the crowds were not there in their thousands, although those that were there had such an education in I.W.W. principles and tactics—so beloved by the boss and his menials—that it is beyond doubt that the influence it has had among thousands who were subsequently enlightened by their more fortunate brethren. From all this the enamored reader will have by now realised what a good thing it is for some people to hear "fair dinkim" I.W.W. speakers propagating the gospel of the coming "New Jerusalem."

The last two Sundays have seen the I.W.W. to the front on the Yarra Bank. Fellow Workers Wilson, Jeffrey, and Dunn vociferated at the first meeting. At the next, F.W. Hill filled F.W. Dunn's place, who, truth to tell, is toiling industriously for his benevolent master on the outskirts of the city environs. Friday night meetings have also been eminently successful. Fellow-Workers Wilson, Jeffrey and Dunn doing the proletarianising to a large interested audience on both occasions. All "D.A.s" were sold before the meetings were half over, and as the sale was increasing week by week an increase in the bundle order was the outcome, showing that Melbourne wage plugs are appreciating the lively readable matter in "D.A."

Our hall meetings also reflect the growing interest in the I.W.W. The last two Sunday evenings witnessed Mr. E. Hanks on "Economics of the Working Class," and Fellow Worker Mary Grant on "Capitalism: Its Evils and their Cure," respectively. Both lectures were attentively listened to by the people present.

Concurrent with the spreading influence of industrial union ideas also grows the necessity for a larger lecture hall and headquarters for local 8. At the time of writing the local is negotiating for a hall that is much larger than the one we now occupy, and in every way it is an advantage—especially so in its central position, and a larger seating capacity. Although finally has not been reached on the matter, one can say truthfully that no stone will be left unturned in trying to secure the prospective new residence for Melbourne's new quota to the industrial rebel army.

The press is very quiet on the coming appeal of our boys; indeed, it seems—a miracle it must be—that a "conspiracy of silence" is being attempted instead of the regular nebulous polemic which daily adorned their pages. Evidently, the coming of the "coalition" has shaded the "notorious criminals" into insignificance, but it has been suggested by some rude person that the real criminals are at present conspiring at their habitual rendezvous, Federal Parliament House, Melbourne. Before verification of this rumor, however, further investigation is needed. People are advised to hold their nostrils in anticipations of some smelly discoveries being made.

In the meantime let all who are interested concentrate their attention on the I.W.W. cases, as careful study will ultimately reveal the innocence of twelve soldiers of the revolution.

NORMAN JEFFERY.

HE KNEW.

"Who wrote that article on 'How to Support a Family of Six on 25/- a Week,' a friend asked the editor of 'The Ladies' Household Friend.' 'Bigham, one of our best men,' said the editor, without a smile. 'We pay him £700 a year.'

Direct Action



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THE SEX WAR.

A Coming Danger.

If recent happenings and ominous signs can be taken as any criterion, there is going to be a very big danger in the near future of the master class attempting to start a WAR BETWEEN THE SEXES. If successful, it will keep the working class divided a bit longer, and hold back the evil day which is RAPIDLY approaching all parasites.

Numerous schemes have been engineered by the master class from time to time to keep the workers from ORGANISING THEIR FORCES. The worst enemy the master class has is ORGANISED LABOR. SOLIDARITY is the thing the boss most fears.

In order to disrupt this working class unity, every tactic will be used. In the attempt to stop the onward march of Organised Labor no stone will be left unturned.

If the capitalists can only be successful in starting a sex war amongst the workers, the organisation of the working class will be held in check for many long years, and the master class will get a longer lease of life.

It will rest with the INTELLIGENCE of the working class whether the masters of bread will be successful in their machinations or not.

Every day that rolls by, MORE AND MORE WOMEN are taking their place in the industrial arena. The changed conditions brought about by the war have opened up numerous avenues of employment for the female sex. Hundreds of thousands of men having been called away to the front, have had their places in the industries filled by women.

All the great factories, mills, and plants in Europe to-day are practically run by the "weaker sex."

According to expert evidence, the women workers in Europe, have proved themselves just as efficient and competent mechanics, engineers, and general workers as the men.

In England, to-day, women are now doing work which before the war would have been LAUGHED AT AS IMPOSSIBLE.

The master class has found out the benefits of female labor. The women workers are more docile, easily managed, and work for a MUCH LOWER WAGE than male labor.

Is the boss, who is always on the LOOK OUT FOR PROFITS, going to give up these labor conditions without a fight? If he can only work up an ANTAGONISM BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS, he is safe for a few years longer.

For the time being, things are working smoothly in this direction, but the whole trouble will start when the war is over and the men come back and start looking for a job. They will find that women have captured MOST OF THE JOBS previously done by men, and that the women are working at a very much lower wage. What are they going to do?

Many English labor leaders are looking towards the future with timid and melancholy eyes. Even Mr. Lloyd George has made reference in the House of Commons to the terrible suffering that will follow the war.

But the working class need have no great fear of the future if they only understand ORGANISATION. The awful times of suffering can be averted if they will only link up into a scientific organisation which will take in all who work for wages.

It is quite true that the master class for numerous economic reasons, will not be too anxious to DISMISS HIS FEMALE EMPLOYEES.

What is to be done? It will be useless crying to Parliament. It will be no use calling the women "scabs." It will be waste of time trying to boycott different establishments.

The solution of the whole difficulty lies in the ORGANISATION OF THE WORKING CLASS.

The women—and the men, too—must be taught the necessity of the One Big Union for all who toil in the industrial field. The women workers must be organised along with the men. The IDENTITY OF INTEREST of all workers must be understood. All must unite under the one banner of INDUSTRIAL SOLIDARITY and demand "equal pay for equal work."

It is a well known fact that the boss wants the best toilers he can get for the lowest price. But if the toilers will only UNITE AS A CLASS and sound the slogan of "equal pay for equal work," and "an injury to one is an injury to all," the boss will find himself "up against it."

Women workers have been exploited and sweated simply because they were not organised. They can get what wages they want, and as good conditions as possible if they only have a strong industrial organisation behind them.

Let us prove to the master class that we are not as simple as he thinks. Let us show him that he cannot set us fighting SEX AGAINST SEX in the mad scramble for jobs. Let us demonstrate to the boss that we are going to fight him AS A CLASS, and not in sections. Once the working class realise the principal of class solidarity all the artifices of the master class will have no effect.

THE I.W.W. IS THE ONLY WAY OUT. Unite into the One Big Union and help to speed the day when strikes, scabs, sweating, and parasites will be no more and all who work will get the full product of their toil.

—N.R.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN TRIALS.

It appears that the individuals responsible for the persecution and jailing of the I.W.W. men in W.A. have been getting ahead of themselves, and now have some very ticklish questions to answer. Things have not turned out as the W.A. authorities expected and they are now wishing that they never touched or heard of the I.W.W.

Mr. Collier, in the Legislative Assembly, asked the Attorney-General the following questions:

(1) At whose instigation was the recent prosecution of members of the I.W.W. commenced? (2) What part did the Crown Law Department take in the prosecution and conduct of the case? (3) The name of the firm of solicitors who were retained for the preparation and conduct of the case, and by whom were they instructed? (4) What was the cost involved through (a) The Crown Law Department, (b) The Police Department, (c) the firm of solicitors employed, (d) the prosecuting counsel, (e) any other expense incurred by the Government.

The eleven men who a few months ago were lying behind the jail walls in W.A. are now roaming about again on the outside and carrying on the propaganda of the One Big Union.

It is the wish of all live wires in the Labor Movement that the 12 men in Sydney will soon be out again and carrying on the good work they so well started.

M.P. SENT ALONG.

Mr. David Edward Dicker, Labor member in Legislative Assembly, for Franklin division in Tasmania, had to appear before the "beak" last week to answer a charge of disloyalty.

The words used were: "I would just as soon be under German rule. If Australia were in trouble to-morrow Britain would not fire a shot to help her."

Mr. Wise, police magistrate, found the law maker guilty and sent him along for three months.

Mr. Dicker, although one of Tasmania's legislators, was not above the military powers, and he has now found out that the letters "M.P." play very little part in the big things of this great Australian Commonwealth.

International Unionism.

THE TRESCA AGITATION.

Some months ago there was a gigantic upheaval in the iron mines of Minnesota, U.S.A. Forty thousand mine workers struck against the intolerable conditions forced upon them by the Steel Trust. The masters used the old familiar methods in attempting to break the strike. Four Montenegrin workers, including a woman, and three organisers of the Industrial Workers of the World, Jos. Schmidt, Carlo Tresca, and Sam Searlett were arrested and charged with first degree murder. Suffice to say, this is a similar plant to the one tried at Lawrence in 1912 on Arthur Giovannitti, Joseph J. Ettor and Joseph Caruso. It is the usual tale of a pimp getting killed, and organisers, who were admittedly miles away, are charged with the murder. Police methods in America are the most disgraceful in the world, and the administration of justice, or whatever you like to call it, in that country comes second only to the sunny State of New South Wales.

A tremendous agitation has been organised all over North America, demanding the release of these men. The most active element in this fight for justice has been the Latin population. In other countries the same agitation has taken a grip, and shows, more eloquently than words ever could, the growing of internationalism in the ranks of the workers. Once the proletariat begins to recognise its class interests and to consider those interests of greater importance than national boundaries, then surely the final aim of the Industrialists, the One Big Union, is not a wild fantastic dream, but rather a weapon in the forging an ideal in the making.

We are indebted to "L'Avanti," the official organ of the Socialist party of Italy for the following information on the agitation which ensued in Italy and Switzerland on the gaoling of Tresca and his brothers in revolt. "L'Avanti," in a leader, calls upon the workers of Italy to use the general strike to free these men who are now lying in the gaols of the Steel Trust. (It is evident that in Italy there is no Unlawful Associations Bill, or if there is, it does not seem to be enforced.)

The Italian Labor Federation, which comprises a membership of 600,000, has issued a call to all industrial federations and district councils to arrange protest meetings and parades. The Italian Syndicalist organisation immediately followed with monster mass meetings, which commenced on Sept. 26th, and which are being held daily and in increased intensity all over Italy.

At a meeting of the Socialist Party, the following members of Parliament: Signors Caroti, Lucei, Turati and Treves, were instructed to question the Minister for External Affairs on the floor of the Italian Parliament on behalf of Tresca and his fellow workers. The Mayor's Associations and many municipal organisations, impressed by the proportions of the agitation, have sent a resolution to the Government demanding a fair trial or the release of the prisoners. Enormous

mass meetings were held at Naro, Galligo, Popolo, Milan, Parma, Firenze, Naples, Palermo, Girgenti, Turin, Genoa, Andria, Cuneo, Pisa, Busto, Arsizio, Monza, Ancona, Pistori, Lecco, Varese, Lesto, San Giovanni, Fossano, Pinerola, Bologna, Perugia, Rome, Aquila, Chilti, Vigevano, Livorno, Lecce, Alessandria, Venice and many other cities. Meetings were followed by protests before the American Consulates, and there were frequent clashes with the police, and many demonstrators were arrested.

The big railroad unions are backing the agitation strenuously, being much interested in Tresca, who was their secretary and organiser in 1903 and 1904. In Salomona, the birthplace of Tresca, all citizens, headed by the Marquis Vincenzo Mazara, the Mayor, assembled in a mass meeting, and passed a resolution to send a special deputation to America to interview the Italian Ambassador in Washington.

The agitation of the forces of labour has compelled the Premier, Signor Sonnino to communicate with the American Ambassador on the matter. The workers of Italy are determined to continue the agitation until the workers are released, and if needs be, a general strike will be called, to force matters.

In Switzerland the agitation has become nation wide, through the effective work of the Italian Socialist Federation and the Federation of Building Trades of Switzerland who have organised a permanent defence committee, which called a conference of organisers at the city of Olten. The other cities working in conjunction and holding mass meetings are Berne, Zurich, Winterthur, San Gallo, Lucerne, Lausanne, Geneva, Arbon, Rorschach, Herisan, Baden and other places.

From "London Solidarity" we learn that the agitation is taking root in France and England. Tom Mann, who is a friend of Tresca's, is very active in England, and the British Parliament has been compelled to take notice of the case.

In Australia so far little notice has been taken in this deliberate attempt to deprive the working class of North America of some of their most competent organisers upon trumped up charges. The master class are everywhere vindictive and hateful towards the advanced Labor movement. The gaols are filled not alone in America, but in Australia with the fearless fighters for Better Days. The forces of industrialism must be marshalled and equipped for the gigantic storm that is breaking.

And our comrades lying in Duluth Gaol in Minnesota will never die, as long as the general movement of Labor emulates the magnificent response of Italy and Switzerland.

Truly the days of International Unionism are with us, when the barriers of national prejudice will no longer divide and separate the workers.

"There is only one working class, there can only be one union."

TOM BARKER.

FOOD RIOTS.

It is reported from official quarters that food riots are taking place in different parts of England. A riot took place at Pontypool market, and the police seized all food stuffs and sold them to the people. Many districts are without potatoes.

The grocers' shops in Liverpool were raided by the people clamouring for cheaper food. With the help of the police "the grocers are now only selling to bona fide customers."

Things have just about reached the breaking point when men and women fight and scramble for food.

It matters not what Government holds the reins of power so long as the present system of capitalism exists hunger and want will always be found.

The working class can alter this terrible state of bare existence, by organising industrially and help to bring about the day when the toilers will get the full product of their labor.

"Truth for ever on the scaffold; wrong for ever on the throne—
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and, behind the dim unknown,
Standeth God within the shadow, keeping
watch above His own."

J. R. LOWELL.

BIG STRIKE AT KRUPPS.

It is reported that over 40,000 workers are now on strike at Krupp's ammunition works at Essen, Germany. It is stated that the poorness of food and excessive labor is the cause of the trouble.

Ever since the start of the war there has been reports and rumours of industrial trouble in and around Krupp's engineering works.

As time goes on the lot of the toilers becomes worse. Men and women cannot last long on poor food and excessive toil.

It is about time that the workers discovered that war is a losing game for them and organised their industrial forces and put an end to all this madness and atrocity.

UNITY.

"The Gnashional Leader," a chaste Brisbane publication, solemnly publishes the following in its issue of 12/1/17:—"It is with extreme regret that we announce the death on December 17th of Mr. John Laidlaw, at the age of 82. The late Mr. Laidlaw was an enthusiastic member of the Returned Soldiers and Patriots' National Political League."

We wonder when Mr. Laidlaw returned. If you believe in a heaven hereafter, it does not follow that you should help to maintain hell on earth.

Unemployment.

It is the boast of the high-browed element that every man in this country has an inalienable right to life; but at present it is hard to discern the foundation for their assertions. With hunger and want stalking like a ghost into the homes of the workers, and the position becoming more acute every day, it is not very hard to disprove such a statement. The ruling class give the workers a right to live only as a medium for the creation of surplus values; for, under the present social system, it is according to the facility with which the capitalist can dispose of the products stolen from the workers, that the workers are enabled to gain access to the tools of production, and thereby enabled to live. Other causes may operate in denying him the right to work, but they only emphasise the more complete domination of the master over the slave, and what slave has a right to live if his master wills otherwise? It matters not whether unemployment is the result of political intrigue, capitalist spleen, or that nightmare of the workers, over-production, it all amounts to the same. The unemployed members of the working class are denied the right to live when their right to work ceases.

The life of the worker and his "pursuit of happiness" (as the right to life implies) is full of tragic moments, but there are none so widespread and deplorable as those resulting from unemployment. The dreary, tramping search of work, the hopeless outlook, the misery of the home, the starving wife and children, may all be the objects of his "pursuit of happiness," and a manifestation of his right to life from a capitalist viewpoint, but to the worker they are real and terrible, and are more aptly described as the march of misery and death. And the workers must realise that the unemployed army is as necessary to the capitalist as air to mankind; for if the demand for labor became greater than the supply, the workers could demand such a return for their labor that it would be unprofitable for the boss to carry on, and the whole social fabric would collapse of its own weight, and with it would go the righteous extravagance that the masters are now enabled to indulge in. Therefore, it is plainly seen that the unemployed function is entirely in the master's interests. To escape the misery and privation that unemployed entails, you are forced to sell your labor power at a great advantage to the boss, and become the lash that goads other workers into accepting less advantageous conditions.

Then what are you going to do about it? Does your "precious respectability" outweigh misery and hunger, and the same sentimental rubbish debar you from participating in demonstrations and organisations deemed criminal by the ruling class? Does the "look of the thing" compensate for a life of ruthless exploitation? If it is so, then, slave, you only get what you deserve; or if your mind is swayed by the standard of morals manufactured by the capitalist class, then you seek no more than they are willing to give, and as unemployment with all its horrors is one of the plums handed the workers, one cannot think too highly of your ideas of life. Surely, you can discern that from a working class point of view, unemployment teems with outrage and indecency, the degradation and misery are positively hideous, and all the while the great machine of exploitation is grinding more and more out of the straining underfed workers, tearing the flesh from their bones, extracting their life's blood and sifting their extreme poverty in the insane greed for profits. Does not the necessity for determined action strike you very forcibly? Do you not see that to prevent unemployment you must also prevent exploitation, and the only way to kill that monster is by organisation. Let us then be up and doing. Now is the time for action, whether you are unemployed or not. Study the chasms of misery that lays in the path of an unorganised working class; then join your fellow-workers, in the vanguard of the movement, and take up the cry in the immortal words of Marx: "Workers of the world, unite! you have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

PETE.

"Freedom, hand in hand with Labor,
Walketh strong and brave;
On the forehead of his neighbor
No man writeth Slave."

—John G. Whittier.

"The Gid, who have seen through the hypocrisy of courts and statesmen, die, and leave no wisdom to their sons. They believe their own newspaper, as their fathers did at their age."

—R. W. Emerson.

Music Teacher: "Your son is improving, but when he gets to the scales I have to watch him very closely."

Mamma: "That's just like father. He made his money in the grocery business."

Can the I.W.W. Be Strangled.

By Alex. George.

"All truth is safe and nothing else is safe; and he who keeps back the truth, or withholds it from men, from motives of expediency, is either a coward or a criminal, or both."—Max Muller.

The greatest economic and political force, menacing the despotic rule of the capitalist class in this country to-day, is, undoubtedly, the I.W.W.

Never before in this country's history has a movement had a more difficult struggle, and unceasing conflict against the powers that be, in order to propagate its ideas.

It had to contend against every form of prejudice, ignorance and intolerance.

Every institution, engaged either directly or indirectly, in upholding the existing state of society, hurled misrepresentation, abuse, ridicule and slander, in an attempt to destroy the I.W.W.

Every method for killing an idea that they could invent, was, and is, being used against us, in order to prevent the working class from thinking; for they know that thought inspires action, which would be eventually the means of bringing about the overthrow of the ruling capitalistic class and the gaining of industrial freedom for the workers.

The large number of revolts against Governments and the employing class engaged in recently by the toilers, prove that they are being aroused from their apathy. That a large number of them are still being lulled by the cry of Patriotism, etc., instilled into their minds by the church, and so-called Labor leaders and intellectual flunkies of the master class, is not, necessarily, due to lack of brains on their part, but to the lack of the opportunity to study literature, that reveals the truth and arouses their passion to attain to a greater and nobler life.

The ruling class are able, and always have been, to secure the services of able and intellectual men, to play the part of Judas, to the slave class. Though it was Christ who said, "The truth shall make us free," these watch dogs of capitalism have now discovered that learning is a dangerous thing for the lower or working classes, and they set to and seized the whole of the literature published by the I.W.W., along with its printing press.

These bribed, intellectual chloroformers of the brains of the working class, trading under the name of a Labor Government, even allied themselves with certain bloodhounds of the boss, to prevent by force, freedom of speech and assembly by the workers, in the streets and parks of industrial centres.

That we still retain this grand right is mostly, if not wholly, due to the great fight in defence of same, and against tremendous odds, put up by the I.W.W. at the commencement of the conscription campaign.

No wonder, then, that the big financiers, members of the Chamber of Commerce and their lackeys, go into fits of rage and anger, when they merely hear the name spoken.

These despotic rulers know, far better than the mass of the working class themselves, that industrial unionism is coming. And in their desperation, they are using every possible combination and agency, in order to check and arrest its growth. Some of their spokesmen of the Chamber of Commerce publicly stated, that they would prefer to live under a regime of the Kaiser in Germany than live here and submit to the tyranny that industrial unionism would impose upon them and their class.

In their mad fury they have had a special Act of Parliament passed, called the Crimes Amendment Bill, and directed specially against our propagandists, which abolishes trial by jury, and reverts to that of the magistrate.

Yet, despite all, the organisation continues to grow, trebles the circulation of its weepily paper, establishes itself in places where it was unheard of a few years ago, and as a result of the fierce and brutal persecution meted out to its active adherents, gains the confidence of the toiling multitudes.

Misrepresentation, slander and abuse, cut no ice now, nor does the fear of jail.

In spite of the whole organised powers of capitalism, they could not strangle the I.W.W., even in its infancy. We have met the prosecution that every new organisation, preaching a new idea, meets. The I.W.W. is to-day past the stage that any force can strangle it.

It is a product of industrial evolution, is being driven onward by it, and the desperate efforts of the profit stuffed parasites to choke it only add to the onward march of the workers to their goal of a free society.

Acts of Parliament, called "Unlawful Associations Bill," declaring the movement to be an "illegal association" cannot kill us.

We always have been, and always will be, from the standpoint of social parasites and their governments, an "illegal association."

It is the greatest recommendation that we can possibly offer to the workers. Neither can the jailing of twelve of our most active propagandists throttle us. The capitalist class, though, were terribly afraid of those men. For they were among the first to expound the principles of the I.W.W. to the workers of this country. When in its infancy the great ignorant mob laughed at and called these men "I Won't Workers," and all the rest of the cowardly epithets, they stuck to their guns, until in a few short years they were rewarded by seeing the organisation firmly established in every State in the Commonwealth, and its principles and ideas spreading like fire among the great mass of the working people.

That is the crime these stalwarts of industrialism are guilty of.

They went out, into the streets and public parks, the mines, construction works and shearing sheds, into every field of industry where workers were exploited, and explained to them the causes of their increasing misery, robbery and exploitation.

They explained to the workers the nature of the class struggle in society, the manner in which the exploiters of labor (about 15 per cent. of the people) appropriate to themselves about four-fifths of the total wealth created by labor, while they hand back as wages to the working class (85 per cent. of the community) but one-fifth, just a bare subsistence wage. They clearly proved to the toilers, as only class conscious industrialists can that the quickest and most effective method to diminish this exploitation, and finally to cast the parasite class off their backs altogether, is to organise into One Big Union, irrespective of trade, color or sex, and to use their own organised power in the industries where they work.

They told the people that the working class, organised, is invincible, and far more powerful than the capitalist class, organised.

Conscription was then introduced, also the introduction of cheap colored indentured labor. The "Herald" of 21st February, in its leading article, discussing the business to come before the Imperial Conference, lets the cat out of the bag thus: "Many of the colonies will need a supply of labor for their development, and the only source of supply within the Empire is British India." They explained to the people how the war would be the means of opening up and developing on a more scientific, capitalistic scale, various parts of Africa, Asia, South America and other countries; explained how the capitalist class must find a foreign market for a part of the surplus commodities created by the toilers, but who are unable to purchase back this surplus out of their wages.

These true fighters for the working class are to-day serving what practically amounts to a life sentence, because they succeeded in arousing the mass of the hitherto dormant, meek and obedient wage slaves to a realisation of their own power, as a class. Because they defied the ruling class, and refused to become the intellectual prostitutes of that class, though some of them were offered good positions to do so. And, furthermore, because most of the leading conscriptionist politicians, as well as the whole of the capitalist press, publicly declared they were guilty before their trial came off.

Fellow workers, throughout the continent, these men have proved their worth to their class; we must not allow them to waste their lives in a prison cell.

They will remain there just as long as you allow them.

If you are content to allow the convictions to stand, then the worse it will be for yourselves; because the more active propagandists the employing class is able to put in without let or hindrance, the more it will keep putting in. Therefore, the time to act is NOW! Arouse your mates on the job. Tell them all about the trial and the great crime which the Government has been guilty of.

Anyway, to sum up, the lesson of the times to learn is that persecution, lies, the black list and the jails have greatly hastened our development, and largely increased our prestige, power and numbers.

The Individual and the Nation.

"Nations like individuals, die. Their birth presents an ethical element; their death, which is the most solemn event that we can contemplate, may arise from interior or from external causes. Empires are only sand-hills in the hour-glass of time; they crumble spontaneously away by the process of their own growth."

A nation, like a man, hides from itself the contemplation of its final day. It occupies itself with expedients for prolonging its present state. It frames laws and constitutions under the delusion that they will last, forgetting that the condition of life is change. Very able modern statesmen consider it to be the grand object of their art to keep things as they are, or rather as they were. But the human race is not at rest; and bands with which for a moment, it may be restrained, break all the more violently the longer they hold. No man can stop the march of destiny.—Murdant.

"Between that period during which a nation has been governed by its imagination, and that in which it submits to reason, there is a melancholy interval. The constitution of man is such that, for a long time he has discovered the incorrectness of the ideas prevailing around him, he shrinks from openly emancipating himself from the dominion, and, constrained by the force of circumstances, he becomes a hypocrite, publicly applauding what his private judgment condemns. Where a nation is making this passage, so universal do these practices become, that it may be truly said hypocrisy is organised. It is possible that whole communities might be found living in this deplorable state. Such a convulse, must have been the case in many parts of the Roman Empire just before the introduction of Christianity. Even after ideas have given way to public opinion, their political power may outlive their intellectual vigor, and produce the disgraceful effect we here consider."

JOHN WILLIAM DRAPER.

Hurl them Down!

When our rulers heed not the popular will,
And Senators care but their pockets fill,
When law-makers are but blind partisan hacks
Who care for a man just the sum of his tax,
Though nations may sing their lordly renown,
Their villainies sentence them—hurl them down!

Though palaces rise at the king's only nod,
And ignorant multitudes think him a God;
The time has gone by for such fanfaronade,
Henceforth, let them work at some man-blessing trade;
A king is but civilisation's old clown,
A clog to humanity—hurl him down!

Proud priests of the bloody faith, dealers in lies,
You've blasted the green earth and darkened the skies,
Created a devil, and made for us hell,
The people are rising, they've cast off your spell,
And Justice exclaims with an ominous frown,
"Too long have we bowed to them—hurl them down!"

Great God of battles, cruel and grim,
The Devil an angel, compared with him,
The jailer of hell, as relentless as fate,
Eternity cannot his cruelty state,
The Lord, old Mars of bloody renown,
Humanity rises, and hurls him down!

WILLIAM DENTON.

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ALL MEMBERS PASSING THROUGH ARE
INVITED TO LOOK IN. GOOD LIBRARY.
— SLAVES WELCOME —

Spasms

By Tom Barker.

A few weeks ago an enthusiastic I.W.W. man left for Port Darwin in the Northern Territory. He is leaving a big trail behind him. On his arrival he got busy, and in a few days had collected £21, in conjunction with some of the local militants, for the defence of the boys in Long Bay Gaol. The Northern Territory is going to be a mighty poor place for Big Bingy one of these days. Bosses in that district are in the same category as mosquitoes, centipedes, flies, and snakes and other infernal and useless pests.

The Butcher Union, or A.M.I.E.U., in Brisbane, has as much use for State governors as the I.W.W. has for William the Frantic. Hence the following resolution carried unanimously:—"That this organisation withdraw from the Eight Hours Union until the invitation to vice-royalty has been withdrawn, and any donation which has been handed over to the Eight Hours Union by the A.M.I.E.U. be refunded, same to be donated to the wives and children of the imprisoned members of the I.W.W."

Now for a caterwaul from the yellow press!

The day-lie press published a par a few days ago, in which it stated that there was a row between the F.M.E.A. and the I.W.W. in Cobarr. The "Queensland Worker" joyously seized hold of the tittle-tattle. Any old boot that the boss has to sling can be used over again. Since then, however, the secretary of the F.M.E.A. mails the lies by a letter in the Sydney "Daily Telegraph," and state that there is NO row between the I.W.W. and his union, who meet together in a spirit of camaraderie. We are curious to know whether the "Worker" will make the correction.

William the Frantic is becoming religious as a side-line. Once upon a time his melodious voice could be heard on the Sydney Domain making a mess of theology and the angels. Now he is beginning to hang around pulpits. Suppose he's getting on terms with the Heavenly Head Serang, and possibly there will be a mix between him and the other Bill for the left hand box seat. When Pierpont Morgan died it was rumored that Peter gave orders for the Great Throne to be serewed down. When William dies it will be well to glue the Head Serang well down, or else William will oust him from the centre of the landscape.

The I.W.W. is some organisation. A long-winded guy named Fowles, who lifts up his yap in the House of Fossils in Queensland, in an attack upon the Ryan Government, used his imagination in a phenomenal manner. Speaking of the appointment of Mr. Justice MacCawley to the Supreme Court, he said that MacCawley was noted for nothing except his predilection for I.W.W. literature. But, anyway, MacCawley is only 37 years of age, and that is the great fault. If a guy isn't in the last stages of senile decay, or possesses brains in his attic instead of cobwebs, some stone-age noise merchant will howl about it. If MacCawley has read I.W.W. literature he will be a different man to face to Hizzoner Pring. There are too many maggoty judges on the Bench. It's time they were turned out to work.

A warrant has been issued for a hotel-keeper who ran away from Melbourne for incendiarism. There must be a scarcity of I.W.W. men in Victoria.

In fining F. W. Swift in Lithgow a fiver for saying something unconventional the magistrate allowed the defendant a week to pay, saying that it would be no loss to Lithgow if he went away and never returned. We honestly hope that His Worship don't go away. If he does, who's going to do the work of the town?

The "Sydney Sun" says that those two eminent statesmen, Messrs. Hall and Holman, undertook a long walk, during which they discussed some of the problems that had been worrying them. The most important problem that confronts these two great men is the question of how they are going to keep their nicely manicured fingers on the perks and sawdusts after March 24th. Gordon may be a walk-over for Willie, the curly-haired darling, but Davy, we presume, will have a long, long rest from public life to wonder why in hell he was ever persuaded to stir up the I.W.W. hornet's nest. And

THE ECONOMIC FOUNDATION OF RAWLIN'S WARNING.

Our red rag friends tell us we produce all, and we ought to do without capital, but can we? If, as our red rag friends say, that the State should employ us all, and give us all good billets with good pay and shorter hours, we would all like that, but the system of capital is with us, and always has been with us, and until the system is knocked on the head by the State, we should try and work peaceably with capital, and get the best wages and conditions that we can possibly get out of capital."

(S. Rawlin, Sec. Gas Employees' Union).
(Quoted in "The Sun").

Mr. Rawlin's knowledge of the Economics of Labor is apparently of a very crude nature. It seemed unbelievable that even a craft union secretary could be guilty of such piffle, but it has not been denied, and the gas employees must shoulder the shame.

To begin with, Mr. Rawlin has very grave doubts—whether labor really produces all wealth, or whether something else produces half of it. A weak insinuation is made that because some "red rag friends" claim labor to be alone responsible for all wealth, there cannot be much truth in the statement; no sane and observant worker can have any doubts at all about the parentage of wealth—the claim that labor creates all wealth is no fantasy; it is a self-evident truth, an axiomatic fact known not alone by "red ragers," but by all other advanced thinkers and economic students; even many of the most respected bourgeois political economists admit it.

Mr. Sec. Rawlin evidently had a hazy idea that capital has a big share in the operation; and judging by his use of the word, he would appear to have but a faint idea of what capital really is. He says, "red ragers"—his own—claim we should do without capital, and then he asks, significantly, "But can we?"

Let us examine the position in a manner which may convince the Mr. Rawlins in our midsts:—

CAPITAL—economically—is wealth, but it is wealth used for a particular purpose; to be capital wealth must be employed for the purpose, or with the intention, of producing profits; now profit comes only from surplus values and surplus values are only received by exploiting human labor—this is, by robbing the worker; therefore, CAPITAL IS NOTHING BUT WEALTH EMPLOYED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPLOITING THE WORKING CLASS, and here we have a man, a secretary of an important craft union, who suggests that the workers could not exist unless they had someone to rob them.

In the above respect, then, we take it, the sensible working man is satisfied that we

when the I.W.W. gets strong, we are going to insist upon Davy and Willie taking plenty of exercise, and not admiring hazel-nuts either.

On Saturday evening, the 17th February, the Russian Association ran a very successful concert and dance on behalf of the Defence Fund, and the wives and children of P.W.'s Glynn, Larkin and Teen. A most enjoyable programme was rendered to a large and appreciative audience, and was followed by a dance which terminated at midnight. Our best thanks are due to our Russian sympathisers for their kindness and practical support and assistance.

The big Triple Alliance in Great Britain is causing the Pommy boss some heart searching. This alliance, which is defensive and offensive, consists of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, the National Union of Railwaymen, and the Transport Workers, consisting of seamen, carters and waterside workers. This alliance will possess a numerical strength of approximately 2,000,000 organised workers. There WILL be something doing when they have a try-out.

"If the Government won't supply a fire engine then we will supply them with a fire." Sounds like some of the evidence against the I.W.W., doesn't it. Well, it was only that blatherskite and stay-at-home, Stanton, M.P. for Merthyr Tydfil, saying what he intended to do at a Peace gathering which was to be held in Cardiff. The I.W.W. argument that the law only reaches those who oppose capitalism is quite true. Supposing I had said what Stanton said, on the Sydney Domain, I would have been assured of ten years at least. Law—oh, yes—law—every time. And pretty low, too!

CAN DO WITHOUT capital. No "red-rager" was ever guilty of saying or suggesting that we could do without wealth—we cannot. We want more of it, much more of it.

It will be noticed from the above that all wealth is not capital; wealth used as an aid to production, but without the profit purpose will not be capital; consequently when wealth is employed for human benefit, and not for human exploitation, the race will have reached a stage when THEY ARE DOING without capital.

The assertion that WE HAVE ALWAYS HAD the capitalist system, and always will have it until the State (capitalist State) knocks it on the head, is about the most stupid and unscholarly statement so far recorded by the 20th century.

It's the kind of thing plute used to say—even he has tired and shamed of using it—when with tongue in cheek he strove to bulldoze the workers; Mr. Rawlins, however, reiterates the frowsy platitudinous thing out of his goodness of heart and unblinking ignorance. All who have read history—most school girls have done so—know of the days of savagery and barbarism with their communal production and communal property; they know of Chatteldom, of the rise and fall of serfdom, and they have a fair idea of the coming of wagemod—the capitalist system—about four or five hundred years ago. Future generations of gas secretaries will learn of wagemod and the coming of the social Commonwealth, and that will be, not when the capitalist state hits the capitalist system over the cranium with a 16-lb hammer, but when the working men and women rally their forces into the One Big Union of industrial groups, and, with their teeth set with a revolutionary determination, proceed to "put in the boot."

Another cyst of fallacy remains to be scooped before closing THIS WARNING, and that is, "that the State will abolish capital." The State is the capitalist State, the organised might of the dominant class to keep the workers where plute put them—on the bottom. The purpose, the machinery, the make-up of the State is not to destroy but to perpetuate the class system, and the person who can imagine this weapon being used to abolish the boss must be blessed with a wonderfully philanthropic imagination. Red ragers don't claim that we should be employed by the State; complete State ownership and conscription are first brothers; either of them consummated is slavery perfected. Hughes, Holman, Cook and Co. are aiming at this slavery, this State ownership. The abolition of the class State is what we aim at; this can be done only by a working class, armed with determination and a scientifically organised industrial army.

Be warned in time by us!

A. MACK.

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"The rain is slipping, dripping down the street,

The day is gray as ashes on the hearth

The children play with soldiers made of tin

While you sew,

Row after row."

The blood is slipping, dripping drop by drop,

The men are dying in the trenches' mud,

The bullets search the quick among the dead,"

While you drift,

The Gods drift.

War is slipping, dripping death on earth,

If the child is father of the man—

Is the toy gun father of the Krupps?

For Christ's sake THINK!

While you sew,

Row after row.

THE NUMBER OF THIS PAPER IS

112.

Unionism and Politics.

The sectional craft unions of today are placed between the devil and the deep sea. Capitalistic bosses, on the one hand, and politics and law on the other. If we follow the political moves and watch the reflex on our courts of law, we must come to the conclusion that the sectional craft unions HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO CHANCE. They are, to use a chess term, checkmated. They have but one move to save the situation, and that is, to ORGANISE INTO THE ONE BIG UNION. We ask you seriously to consider the latter proposition, to weigh thoroughly the pros and cons of the situation. What effect would Beeby's idea of union control have upon the one big union? What hurt would accrue from Federal flats against preference to unionists? What harm if legislature and law condemn us as an "Unlawful Association"? Why? You could smile at their puny efforts. You could reverse the order of things. You could provide the Beebys and the rest of the legal and political shufflers with a pick, or a shovel, or some other tool of production and thereby compel them to perform some useful function in return for the bread they eat. Mr. Beeby is poking about in a reckless fashion, with that stick of his. Let him beware he does not upset the hornet's nest. The workers of today are seething with discontent. One sees very little outward manifestation of this discontent; yet it is there, and the murmurings are swelling, they are increasing in volume, and the ultimate result will be determined by the policy of the powers that be. THE CHANGE IS INEVITABLE. Capitalism has served its purpose in the evolutionary process and must give way to the new order of things. If you wish for revolution instead of evolution, then I advise you to try to hold back this human torrents, PROSECUTE THEM LEADERS, cancel their organisations, put them with your union control scheme; in fact, go the whole hog and draft a new "Statute of Laborers"; then when you have done these things, clear for Timbuctoo or some other remote place away from the crash. LEGISLATURE AND LAW HAVE LOST THEIR POWER TO CONTROL THIS HUMAN STREAM, and any attempt to restrict or retard its progress will be calamitous. There are only two processes by which changes are brought about—evolution and revolution. Restrict the former and you precipitate the latter. History repeats itself, but always on a higher plane. The "Peasants' Revolt," the French Revolution, and other historical events of a like character have left their mark on the intelligence of the proletariat. The past points the way to the future.

J. H. R.

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 another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade 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.

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