

Editor Gaoled Business as Usual

DIRECT ACTION



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Moulders Strike.

For some time past there has been trouble brewing amongst the moulders. Whatever the technicalities of the trade may be, there can be no doubt the men have taken a tumble to the fact that they are not getting a fair deal even from a conservative standpoint. It appears they had tried for eight months by legal methods to obtain an advance of 3d. an hour. On Saturday, 23rd inst., a meeting of the union was held. This meeting was of a sallow nature, and all the men determined to take action. A motion was carried that all members CEASE WORK TOGETHER, and recognise no settlement unless all resume work together. It appears that the officials had favoured the policy of the small section of carrying on a strike, whilst the rest remained at work. The motion, which was popular with the men, did not suit the union secretary, who immediately jumped up and denounced the men as blockheads. This conservative official was gravely concerned about the sanctity of legality, and eventually succeeded in rescinding the motion. Owing to the trouble the union lost its registration. This terrible calamity, predicted by the officials, has happened, and so far there is no evidence of a social catastrophe. No blight has fallen upon the moulders. Nobody seems any the worse, the precious registration might have been a lost dog license for all the difference it has made.

One thing is certain. The officials' attempt to nip the dispute in the bud has angered the men, who, tired of legal procedure, have determined to try direct action. If the rank and file had overruled the officials and taken action on their own initiative long ago, they would have saved themselves a lot of trouble. Tinkering with legality cannot advance the men's interests, and has a marked tendency to break the solidarity of the union. Most unionists have a habit of leaving everything in the hands of officials with the inevitable result that the interests of the rank and file suffer. The moulders have now struck en masse, and it is to be hoped they will be victorious. If they stand together and ignore the attempts of conservative officials to sidetrack them with legal procedure and constitution quibbles, the importance of the industry, and the solidarity of the men will quickly decide the issue in their favour.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

As the authorities are in possession of our address book, about 300 of our subscribers will not receive their paper through the post this issue. We particularly request that all readers and members make this known as widely as possible, so that subscribers can send in their names and addresses with the amount of subscription paid by them. Subscribers living in Melbourne, Sydney, and Broken Hill can obtain their paper from the respective locals, who will be credited by the Press.

PRESS COMMITTEE.

WANTED, 10,000 SUBSCRIBERS.

The authorities are attempting to stifle this paper by gaoled the Editor and Printer. We want all lovers of liberty to rally to our assistance. Collect subs., donate to the Press Fund, and increase your bundle order. Do it now, and do it often!

WANTED, Recruits, male and female, for the Industrial Workers of the World. Must be determined, unscrupulous, and unafraid of gaoled or death. Apply to-day at the nearest I.W.W. Recruiting Office.

The Charge

Inspector Campbell made a careful disposition of his men surrounding the building occupied by the I.W.W., and the place was then entered. Four men were arrested and taken to the Central Police Station.

The names of the four men are:—

Charles Reeve, 30, bricklayer, no religion, and a native of England.
Thomas Glynn, 35, journalist, Roman Catholic, a native of Ireland.
Peter Larkin, 46, seaman, Roman Catholic, a native of Ireland.
John Hamilton, 42, painter, no religion, a native of Victoria.

The charge preferred against the men is a very long one, but includes the following:—"THAT THEY FELONIOUSLY AND WICKEDLY DID COMPASS, IMAGINE, INVENT, DEVISE, OR INTEND, TO LEVY WAR AGAINST OUR LORD THE KING WITHIN HIS MAJESTY'S DOMINIONS."

After making the arrests the detectives made a thorough search of the premises, and Inspector Campbell and his men seized a police van full of literature, pictures, flags, and photographs, etc., which have been lodged at Central Police Station. The search was a long one, occupying over three hours.

Need for Solidarity

Never before in the whole political, industrial, and social history of this island continent were its people on the brink of so colossal a crisis as confronts them at the present hour. In the course of a few weeks it will be definitely determined whether the struggle of Labor towards Liberty has been worth while. For, Labor has had its pitched skirmishes with Capital here, and the red blood of its martyrs at Eureka Stockade stained the first milestone in the long climb along high ways of sacrifice. In those years a moiety of liberty has been wrung from the organised oligarchs—the rights of free speech, free assembly, free press, freedom of conscience, and certain personal civic rights that are alien to the conscripted countries of Europe. And for these, laboring men and laboring women have sacrificed the best years of their manhood and their womanhood.

To-day these blood-won rights are menaced by the coalition of the avowed champions of Capitalism and the double-dealing political renegades of Labor. This fusion of Tory troglodytes and rhetorical rats have conspired together to concoct a War Precautions Act destined to flitch from Australian people, not only the fruits of their struggles and strikes here, but even their pristine rights won by our ancestors in the England of King John's reign.

Every intelligent toiler knows that conscription is the consummation of all the vagaries and intrigues and machinations and general political stock-in-trade of our eminently respectable drones and all their slobbering retinue. Every live wire understands that with one fell swoop the inauguration of conscription would cut the ground from under the foundations of our civic rights and drag us down to the social purgatory of a disciplined industrial slavery. There is no need to labor these facts or enumerate their self-evident phases. They are too incontrovertible to be effected by the fly-blown flapdoodle of Hughes, Irvine and Coy., or the jingoistic jargon of all the prattling prostituted penny prints of the plutocracy run amok.

But the one big fact we must front is this—the little coterie back of the conscription conspiracy is entirely dependent upon the gullibility of the gullible to win out. If the bulwarks of Capitalism can cajole the majority they mean to coerce the minority. It is all a problem as to whether the influences of the Class State can eclipse the power and propaganda of organised Labor. At the present hour, Fat, securely harbored by his legal force, perusing sheafs of pious academic

resolutions of protest from the enemy's camp, and complacently waiting to impose the dammed kind of industrial coercion on the slaves he doesn't send off to die.

The recent two years of Europe's history has made the international gang of industrial despots who rule Australia optimistic. They heard the wailing and weeping, teeth-quashing, revolutionising of the Socialists of Germany, France, England, Italy, and Russia, for a week or so prior to those nations participating in the blood-bath. And then, they saw those protesting socialists marching in massed formation like sheep to a bloody shamble all for the glory of the banners and bosses of Capitalism. They saw in the mouthed protestations of Socialist parties the last shot fired against their imperishable doctrines in Europe and they await the repetition of history in Australia.

Now, Australian Labor should realise, as their masters must realise, that Labor failed dismally to hold down the dogs of war in Europe because the requisite industrial power was not existent to enforce that protest of the millions who did not want the war. The developing numerical strength of the Socialist political parties on the Continent registered the fact that in all the belligerent countries the workers militated against the mercenary and murderous imperialist policies of their Government. But when they registered that protest at the ballot box they were utterly helpless to enforce it. No industrial organisation breached them together to materialise that protest. No machinery was there to organise that protest in the places where those voters were in control of the sources of production and distribution. When the Government called those Socialists to the colors those Socialists realised the powerlessness of their ballot-boxes and the necessity of a something to call out the transport service and prevent their mobilisation. And, while realising they were goose-stepped away, cheek by jowl with the patriotic boneheads, to participate in a war precipitated by the ruling classes to perpetuate their rule.

Australian Labor is witness to this lamentable spectacle of the impotency of Labor in Europe. Its lesson lies there. Unless the wordy protest of unions and leagues is galvanised into action right now, its men and its movement must go down to a death which shall be an everlasting tribute to the magnificent strategic organisation of the class who boss the world.

"Rise like lions after slumber,
In unvanquishable number;
Cast your chains to earth like due
That in sleep have fall'n on you;
Ye are many; they are few."

CHAS. W. GREEN.

The Every-day Fight.

EDITOR GLYNN AND OTHER MEMBERS ARRESTED.

Just before midday on Saturday, September 23rd, the I.W.W. Hall, in Sussex Street, Sydney, was raided by a small army of detectives. At the time of the raid there were about seventeen members of the organisation on the premises. Fellow-worker Tom Glynn, who is the editor of this paper, along with Fellow-workers Peter Larkin, Jack Hamilton, Charles Reeve, B. Bessant, and Don McPherson, were arrested, and taken to the Central Police Station, where the four firstnamed were charged with treason. Bessant was charged with vagrancy, while McPherson was charged with being "in possession of goods reasonably supposed to have been stolen." The latter goods are supposed to be two shirts.

All the remaining members had their names and addresses noted, and were questioned at length, and finally allowed to go.

All the stock of literature on the premises, with some minor exceptions, was taken away by the police. The value of the literature taken away is estimated at £520. The authorities also seized all correspondence, files, account and day books of both the local union and the Press. The address book of subscribers was also taken, as was Fellow-worker Abamsky's magnificent copy of Walter Crane's famous allegorical picture, "The Paris Commune," the local's charter, and the big red banner. What the authorities intend to do with all the matter they seized, God only knows!

The detectives for the most part were civil and courteous, and handled the more valuable property carefully. They seemed quite surprised at the amount of work that they had to put in. £520 worth of literature may seem a good deal, but it is very little when compared with the thousands of pounds' worth that the Sydney Local has disposed of in the last three years. The bosses and the authorities will never make up THAT leeway if they raid the I.W.W. Hall from now to the day when Gabriel sounds his trumpet.

As for the charges of 'treason, they serve as a pleasant reminder that we have a disgruntled and discredited Labor Ministry in power. After resurrecting Stone Age laws like that of treason, we may expect that the institution of the First Night will be revived by our N.S.W. Labor Ministers. But the responsible parties, for their impudent legal outrage and interference with the property of a militant working class organisation, will meet with merited punishment in the near future. Let the authorities hang on to Reeve, Glynn, Larkin, and the other fellow-workers as long as they can, as the time is rapidly coming when the I.W.W. will be off top. The I.W.W. has about seven members in gaoled. There are still 2000 members left, and about half a million sympathisers; so, Mr. Bumble, get your coat off and dig up all the Stone Age, mildewed enactments, and trot them out. Build a few more gaoled, hire a few more narrow-minded patriotic magistrates, and treble the police force. Then, ye crack-brained, near-sighted politicians, legislate the I.W.W. out of existence. The I.W.W. has grown husky, big, and strong on gaoled diet, messieurs, and we thank you for keeping us fit and trim.

"Direct Action" may deteriorate during Fellow-worker Glynn's absence, but it is going to come out weekly in spite of Hell, the conscriptionists, and the political nondescripts!

Workers! Glynn, Larkin, McPherson, Bessant, Reeve, and Hamilton are IN. You are OUT! A nod is as good as a wink to a blind hatrack!

DIRECT ACTION



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of the
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403 SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS: 184 W.
Washington Street, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

OUR STANDPOINT.

Federal Labor Member Archibald had added his tribute to the encomiums which the I.W.W. has lately earned from the plumes and their political tools. Speaking on the Referendum Bill in the "Onse" the other evening, he remarked, "Where we have to look for our enemies was in an organisation called the I.W.W. These people went about creating strikes here and strikes there. Most of the leading men of the association were Americans." It is pleasing to learn from this parasitical tool of the master class that the power and influence of the I.W.W. is so much feared. Occasionally some of us might give up the fight in despair if little tributes of this kind were not forthcoming. Archibald added that we were "bought by German gold." We hope we will be permitted to state that Archibald is a damned liar. But in any case, no traitor is so contemptible as the type of political Judas who secure soft jobs by the workers' aid and then turns round and betrays them. Most of our readers, by the way, will smile at the assertion that the "leading men" of the I.W.W. are Americans.

"There is no censorship of the press now," said Mr. Hughes in Parliament the other evening, "excepting that they are not allowed to refer in insulting terms to the Empire or her Allies, or to publish resolutions inciting persons to commit any breaches of the law, whether by strikes or other acts of resistance."

A pawnbroker was heavily fined under the War Precautions Act in Melbourne recently for charging excessive rates of interest, amounting in one case to 320 per cent., to soldiers' wives who gave assignments of allotments on their husbands' pay. Why make invidious distinctions? What about prosecuting the exploiters who reap thousand per cent. dividends as a result of the war? A start might be made with the armament firms whose piles of profits are only comparable with the bones of the dead on whom they are made.

The Asquith Government in England was successful in driving a wedge in working-class ranks during the conscription campaign by the plea that conscription would only be applied to single men. The conscriptionist conspirators in Australia must be hard put to it for arguments to justify themselves when they resort to the same tactics here. There are approximately 70,000 single men eligible for military service in the whole of Australia nearly half that number are required for reinforcements for this month alone. In three months the supply of single men will be exhausted, and if conscription is introduced, married men will then be called upon. We do not think, though, that this lie of the conscriptionists will be as successful in imposing upon and dividing the workers of Australia as it was in England. From all quarters of Australia are coming indications that the married men as well as the single are fully alive to the real purpose of con-

scription. That purpose is cheap conscript labor in the industries of Australia, and the dependents of the married men are some of the potential victims.

Some anti-conscription advocates, by the way, put up strange arguments to justify their case. The writer heard a politician remark outside the Town Hall the other evening that by "depleting Australia of its manhood trade and industry would be paralysed." This is tantamount to saying that the capitalists who are, of course, at the bottom of the conscription campaign, are trying to commit economic suicide. "Trade and Industry" may be trusted to take all sorts of good care that they shall not suffer. Are there not starving millions in China, and elsewhere who are only waiting to be exploited in mine, field, and factory? Trade and Industry show no indications of paralysis by the employment of this kind of labor in France and England, but, then, we forgot—a White Australian Democracy would not stand for that kind of thing. Oh, dear, no!

Write it in letters of fire, shout it from the housetops: THE LOWERING OF THE STATUS OF THE WORKING CLASS BY THE COMPETITION OF INDENTURED LABOR IS THE REAL PURPOSE AND OBJECT OF CONSCRIPTION IN AUSTRALIA.

BROKEN HILL NOTES.

Good street propaganda is being carried on here as usual by the speakers of both locals with encouraging results as far as membership is concerned. If the workers of this part of the world are going to remain much longer under the iron heel of capitalism, it will not be because the element in Broken Hill have been lacking in their efforts to spread the one and only gospel worth preaching or hearing in these strenuous times of Industrial Unionism.

In addition to the street meetings, Fellow-worker Harry McIrose lectured in the I.W.W. Hall on Sunday last, September 10th, on "Industrial Disturbances in New Zealand." The lecturer dealt with the occurrences and conditions which gave rise to the Waihi strike, and also the industrial disturbances which were subsequent to it, and showed very clearly how the Arbitration and Conciliation Act of New Zealand was used by the masters on every possible occasion, to defeat the ambitions of the militant section of the working class.

The speaker also emphasised the ruthless tactics adopted by the masters all over New Zealand in order to break the various strikes, and that the time had come for the workers to join together in building up a union capable of striking at the heart (pocket-book) of Capitalism at every point of the compass, and in an organised and effective manner. The place for the workers to fight their oppressors was not in the streets with inferior weapons, but on the job where an organised and educated working class would be absolutely unbeatable.

Adela Pankhurst has been lecturing in the Trades Hall, under the auspices of the B.L.F., and has attracted big crowds to her various meetings.

The "Miner," the local organ of the parasite class, still continues to pour out the vials of its wrath upon the I.W.W., but we only smile and go on with the work of education and organisation, for we know that when the ink-slingers of capitalism are ordered to direct their influence against us, we are something more after all than an "insignificant minority." We know that the I.W.W. is in line with social evolution, and that economic conditions, as at present developing, and forcing the working-class to awake from their hypnotic spell—to shake off the chains of ignorance and superstition, and to realise that the only hope of the workers is in the organisation of their class, and the only ideal worth fighting for is the ideal of the I.W.W.—Industrial Democracy.

FRANK F. WARD.

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.

DIRECT ACTION.

Efficiency.

(By A. MACK.)

The bringing of the entire world under the banners of the wage system absorbed some hundreds of years of the Capitalist era; the feverish anxiety manifested by the capitalist nations for the welfare of the "heathen" is now a glorious feature of the records that are passed back to us as human history. To civilise the backward races was a big task, but the prospect of profits, big profits, justified all sacrifices that could be made, and because of the vision of big profits the exploiting capitalist, always pushing the missionary and the gun before him, kept stubbornly on, and at last succeeded in forcing upon the world the civilising yoke of the wages system, thereby raising the status of the barbarian by transforming him from one who produced for the use of himself and his tribe to one who produced for the enrichment of his master—a truly wonderful human advance.

In the scrambles for the right to teach the "heathen" the glory of working for a boss, the various capitalist groups often came into collision and thus ensued the fights, between the workers of the contending groups, that now act as landmarks across the centuries, and wherein the heroic deeds occurred that serve as an urge in the hearts of moderns to go and do likewise.

As a result of the civilising, Christianising process, and the attendant conflicts, the world is now owned by several groups of capitalists whose interests are represented by cloth designs, blessed by the Deity, worshipped by the people and usually fastened to the end of a stick.

Since the completion of this competition for the uncivilised markets, the capitalist nations have settled down to a competition for each other's markets, for since production is carried on to-day for sale purposes it follows naturally that the market is the central feature of capitalist vision, and the loss of those already held would probably amount to bankruptcy for the boss, while the winning of more would usher in a period that may lift him to a millionaire's pedestal.

In earlier days the ownership of the market could be procured by means of war, but that is not the case to-day; the nation of capitalists that can sell the cheapest can take the markets of any or of every country.

There is but one way in which one country can sell cheaper than others, and that is obviously by producing by cheaper methods; these methods may include either more efficient machinery or more efficient or cheaper workers, or they may include all these advantages. As there is not a preponderating difference between the machines employed by one group of manufacturers and those used by the others, the difference in the cost of production must be concealed somewhere in the human labor employed to operate the machine.

Granting that all nations are using the same machinery, and still one nation can undersell the others on the world market, then the working class of that nation must work for less wages or for longer hours, or by working harder, produce more for the same wages and during the same time, than the working class of the other nations. Hence we see that the capitalist position to-day has developed to a necessity for organising the workers in order to produce the efficiency required to enable the masters to compete successfully on the world markets against their rivals.

The supremacy in the workshop and the factory is then a prelude to the conquest of the world; the position is desperate, and should the working class of any country refuse to be speeded up by any of the boss's efficiency schemes, and should they victoriously oppose all attempts to introduce cheap labour to fill their places, the capitalist class of that country must go out of business, but the working class should keenly remember that this last result the masters will fight to the last ditch by bitterly and venomously opposing the cause.

The International Revolutionists are the only persons who to-day adopt a logical attitude towards the efficiency scheme proposed by the boss, since they are the only body that adopts an attitude of uncompromising antagonism to the capitalist system of which efficiency profits are the inevitable outgrowth. The old methods of capitalism are giving place to the new for precisely the same reason—that they are out of date—that the old form of unionism must give way to the "new."

If we of the working class are to successfully maintain ourselves above the level of feudal serfs, we must "follow the

light" that is shining from the banner of the Industrial Workers of the World. There is no time to lose, we have to build up the One Big Union, and thus become possessed of an efficient weapon with which to combat the raids made on our liberty by the exigencies of the newer capitalism.

SOUTH COAST NOTES.

It is not generally known that a portion of the miners of this Coast do not possess an eight hours working day. The miners who are on contract have eight hours, but the off hand, or day labour men work nine, with the result that dissatisfaction has been the rule for some considerable time past. About a year ago an agitation for a uniform eight hours working day was started, and several large meetings of the miners took place, where resolutions embodying an all-round eight-hour day were carried unanimously. But just at this stage of affairs the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation was being launched, and we were then advised to shelve the question of hours for a period of three months, at the end of which it was decided to come out on strike, if the mine owners refused the granting of an eight hours day.

The Federal Arbitration Court judge then called a Compulsory Conference between the miners "reps." and owners, but nothing in the nature of a shorter working day materialised. Further conferences were held without the eight hours coming along, until finally at a conference held in Melbourne the owners offered an advance of 1/3 a day on a basis wage of 10/-, instead of acceding to the men's request for a shorter work day. Now the majority of the Federation accepted this bait, or rise in wages, but this Coast turned it down absolutely, as they pointed out to their representatives that they wanted a shorter work day and not an advance in wages. The above agreement is to remain in operation until the judge issues his award. Seeing that the Coast miners rejected the offers of the mine owners, the only course left open to them was to take the eight hours, and thus they did, Scarborough miners being the first to start the new system, and Coledale miners quickly followed suit, as also did Coalcliff, but in the latter case they acted in a half-hearted manner, with the result that they are now working nine hours again, while at South Bulli a majority have decided not to work more than eight hours per day.

We are now informed by the secretary of the Federation that the action of the above mines in taking eight hours is holding up the sitting of the Arbitration Court, as the judge says we must go back and work nine hours before he will consent to arbitrate on the case.

Workers of the Coast, refuse to work nine hours, let the Arbitration Court go to blazes; an ounce of direct action is worth a ton of arbitration any time. The only way to get eight hours is to take it, don't wait until some old fossil of a boss gives it to you; be like the Scarborough boys, take it, and whether the Court sits or not, they are bent on only working the eight.

The latest developments, I believe, are to the effect that if these few collieries mentioned do not go back to the nine-hours system they are threatened with expulsion from the Federation! Ye Gods! Fancy being expelled from an organisation for the awful crime of working eight hours instead of nine. And, mark you, this organisation is part and parcel of the newly formed One Big Union.

The sooner we are expelled the better, and coupled up with some organisation worthy of the name.

The writer, with the aid of a few more rebels, has been trying hard recently to secure a speaker from the Sydney headquarters, and as a result Fellow-worker Peter Larkin will deliver his lecture, "Ireland—Past and Present," in the Coledale Empire Hall on Sunday evening, 24th September, when a crowded house is expected.

"BENT AXLE."

BROKEN HILL ACTIVITIES.

Hall: 316 Argent Street.
Wednesday Evening, at 7.30 p.m.—Educational Class.
Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Business Meeting.
Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Economic Class.
Sunday, at 7.30 p.m.—Outdoor Propaganda Meeting, near Post Office, in Argent-street.
Good Library. Also good collection of Literature for sale. All live rebels welcome.
Secretary-Treasurer, E. J. Kiely, 316 Argent Street, Broken Hill, N.S.W.

"Divine" Buncombe.

Emperor William, during his recent trip to a point somewhere in the rear of Peronne, on the Somme front, says a dispatch to The Wireless Press from Berne, made a speech to the German wounded soldiers which is attracting great attention in Germany. The German Emperor is quoted as saying:

"It is the most poignant grief of my life that I am unable to take a more active part in this war. It is my earnest desire to go in the trenches and to deal such blows at our enemies as my age and strength would permit.

WOULD LEAVE MARK ON ENEMY.

"I could take my place with the youngest of you and I promise that I would leave my mark on the enemy. But the inscrutable Almighty has willed otherwise. Into my cares has been committed by Divine destiny the leadership of our country, its armies and its forces on land and sea.

"The burden of thinking, deciding and leading has been hard upon me, and realising this, I know that my life must not be risked in the foremost line of battle where my feelings, if unrestrained, would carry me swiftly.

"My life must be conserved carefully for the welfare of Germany in order to carry out the duties assigned to me by Divine appointment."

Same thing with the I.W.W. We feel that we have to conserve our lives for "divine duties." We feel that the "inscrutable Almighty," whatever that means, has made it our "divine destiny" to destroy capitalism. We feel that into our hands have been placed divine overalls to clothe "divine" hypocrites and "divine" pick-aes and shovels to place in the hands of divine idlers.

Considering that, on looking it up, "inscrutable" means "not to be understood," the German Emperor has a pretty good understanding of the designs of the "inscrutable Almighty." We have a hunch that if the Germans in the trenches had as clear an understanding of the inscrutable they would go back home, and those who did not have a home, would take the Kaiser's—"Industrial Worker," U.S.A.

The I.W.W. Press.

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"SOLIDARITY."

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"A BERMUNKAS."

(The Wage Worker.)

Hungarian. Semi-Monthly, 6s. 6d. per year. 350 East 81st St., New York, N.Y., U.S.A.

"ALLARM."

(The Alarm.)

Swedish-Norwegian-Danish. Monthly, 4s. per year. 164 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

"SOLIDARNOSO."

(Solidarity.)

Polish. Weekly, 6s. 6d. per year. 164 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

"DARBININKU BALSAS."

(The Voice of the Workers.)

Lithuanian. Weekly, 6s. 6d. per year. 869 Hollins St., Baltimore, U.S.A.

"HET LIGHT."

Flemish. Monthly, 4s. per year. Franco-Belgian Hall, 9 Mason St., Lawrence, Mass., U.S.A.

"IL PROLETARIO."

(The Proletariat.)

Italian. Weekly, 6s. 6d. per year. Gen. Del. Hanover Sta Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

"EL REBELDE."

(The Rebel.)

Spanish. Bi-Weekly, 4s. per year. Bundle rate 1d. per copy. Address all communications and remittance to Administrator, El Rebelde, Box 1279, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

"RABOCHAYA RECH."

(The Voice of Labor.)

Russian. Weekly, 4s. per year. Bundle rates, 1d. per copy outside Chicago. Address: 1146 South Desplaines St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

"A LUZ."

(Light.)

Portuguese. Semi-monthly. Subscription 4s. per year. Bundles of 50 1d. per copy. Address, 699 South First St., New Bedford, Mass., U.S.A.

One Big Union Abortion.

A committee of craft unionist representatives have been busy upon the problem of the One Big Union. Taking Trautman's chart as a basis, they have evolved a fearful and wonderful contraption which they humorously designate by the title of One Big Union!

There are eighteen trade group classifications, eighteen group councils and one grand central council.

Some of the groupings are very funny. In group No. 1 there are two duplications of craft unions, and this occurs in other groups.

Group No. 7 provides for an A.W.U. branch all on its own. Group No. 10 is engine-drivers and firemen, although the very next group provides for railway and tramwaymen. In Group 12 the committee evidently became exhausted, as the group is merely headed Gas Makers, and left at that. Yet Group 1 includes Gas Meter Makers, which one would think comes sufficiently near to the industry to be worthy of a place therein.

Group 13 is assigned to Undefined and General Workers, possibly left open for politicians, cockies, and craft union officials. Group 15 includes undertakers and chauffeurs, a very thoughtful arrangement, as in case of the chauffeur killing anybody the undertaker would be there to dispose of the remains.

Two unions of Clerks occur under Professional and Shop Workers. "Bottle Oh!" men are dignified by the name of "Bottle Accumulators," and come under Domestic Workers.

Agriculture is not specified, unless meant to be included in the A.W.U. Branch; but it is obvious, to anyone who knows the composition of the A.W.U., that there must be a huge overlapping in the various groups on this account alone.

The One Big Union scheme emanating from the Trades Hall seems to be a crude attempt to satisfy the increasing demands of the workers for some show of efficiency by their paid officials. It is interesting also as testifying to the increased dissatisfaction of the working class with the craft union form of organisation. The committee in their report state that recently the R.W. and G.L. Union went on strike because some other workmen employed on railway construction would not become members, although they belonged to another union; and before the matter was settled over £5,000 had been expended out of the funds of the union, besides the loss of wages, which must have amounted to three times that sum.

This could all have been saved, add the committee pathetically, by having one union only. So it could; but the loose amalgamation of craft unions outlined by the committee in their scheme is not the scientific form of organisation necessary to effect that purpose.

The idea seems to be to provide an antidote to the growing competition of the I.W.W., the propaganda of which is much feared by orthodox craft union officials.

We invite workers to compare the scheme of Industrial Unionism and the One Big Union as outlined by the I.W.W. with the conglomeration concoction of the Trades Hall, and ask themselves which is the more likely to advance their interests as regards securing better conditions; and, more important still, that control of industry which will usher in the Industrial Democracy.

A. E. BROWN.

THE DEFENCE FUND.

On October 3rd the appeals of Fellow-Workers Grant, Larkin, and Reeves against their recent convictions in the Police Court will be heard at the Quarter Sessions. The time is short, and funds are imperatively needed to meet legal expenses. Members and sympathisers throughout the country need not be reminded that this fight is their fight. These men are being persecuted and gaoled because they place the cause of the working class before their own liberty and well-being. It is the DUTY, therefore, of all militants to subscribe to the defence fund. All donations will be acknowledged in these columns.

Address to

P. HARFORD,

Secretary Defence Committee, Box 98, Haymarket.

A considerable number of complaints are arriving at this office re non-delivery of "Direct Action" to subscribers. In 99 per cent. of these cases the fault lays with the Post Office authorities. As it is impossible for us to attend to each individual case, subscribers are advised for the future to address all complaints direct to the Deputy Postmaster-General, Sydney.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE GREAT - BROKEN HILL MINING CO.

At the half-yearly meeting of the above company, held yesterday at the offices of the company, Collins-street, Melbourne, the chairman of the board of directors, the Hon. A. Fitzdvyget, said that he had to congratulate the shareholders on the prosperous half-year just concluded, and although the board knew that some of the scripholders had only declared a dividend of 4s per cent. this term, he on behalf of the board wished to say to those who thought they should have taken a fuller advantage of the opportunities offering because of the war, that the profits were really much greater than appeared, and as during the term they had placed large sums to the reserve funds, and had invested in the war loan sufficient money to ensure a continuation, so much desired in the interest of the Empire, of the present rate of dividends for some years. (Hear, hear.)

"As in past years, we have been looking after your interests in many directions. We were successful in obtaining a large grant from the Government for the upkeep of the repair shop where our broken workmen are mended or scrapped. The workmen also contribute weekly a small amount for the upkeep of that institution, which we deduct from their earnings. We are confident that in the near future we will be able to extend the same principle to our machine shops, where broken machines, are repaired. The success of this method of economical working is undoubted, and does not cause nearly the disturbance amongst our employees as a straight-out deduction of wages would. We also encourage our employees to contribute to the upkeep of those who meet with accidents whilst in our employ, through various benefit associations."

"Our policy, once questioned, of secretly assisting this association is now amply justified, if you will consider the thousands of pounds paid yearly through these associations which otherwise would have to come from your hard-earned profits, and the fact that it is easily mingled in our interests by the simple and inexpensive method of giving the more intelligent of our workmen, who take an interest in such things, work of a slightly lighter and better paid nature than they had been previously accustomed to."

"The number of accidents to our employees has, I know, caused some comment; but only one in every two of our workmen has met with an accident during the past half-year. Those who were killed outright were, however, easily replaced, and with regard to those who were injured more or less seriously we find that, after a period of rest, during which they receive no pay and get into debt with the local tradespeople, they are invariably more docile and submissive, and that independence of spirit so deplorable in present-day workmen, is for a time crushed out of them. When you consider, gentlemen, that our expenses are exactly the same under the M.A.R. Fund whether we have one accident or one thousand, you will easily understand that accidents are rather a source of profits than anything else. And, at all events, are far cheaper than taking precautions to prevent them."

"Our general manager and the staff are to be congratulated on the very efficient system they have introduced for the removal of injured employees from the mines without interfering with the productive operations."

"I very much regret having to report that one shovel handle was broken during the term; the shovel was a good one—in fact, almost new. On the matter being reported to me I immediately visited the works and instituted inquiries, and as a result the underground manager has been dismissed. I know you will all join me in the hope that his punishment will act as a deterrent to the others and prevent a recurrence of such gross carelessness with the property of the company, which is most deplorable, especially when the Empire is straining all its resources for the war. (Applause, long and continued.)"

"Another matter I should mention is that a large number of our miners have died from lung complaint recently, and although our doctor and experts have proved conclusively, and demonstrated beyond dispute that the dust in our mines is healthy and fattening, and that beer is the true cause of the complaint, the fact that the high death-rate is confined to underground workers has given rise to the absurd and ridiculous idea that the dust and bad ventilation in our mines are responsible. The simple and true explanation is that the men underground work shorter hours and receive higher pay, and therefore have more money to spend on beer and more leisure time to spend in drinking in the vitiated air of the beer saloon than their more fortunate surface workers, who work longer hours for smaller pay, with a consequent great improvement in their health."

"We, however, have overcome the difficulty by getting the workers to build a sanatorium for themselves, which we will manage in their interests. A much more serious proposal is one to compel us to contribute some portion of our hard-earned money to compensate men who have ruined their lungs with the fumes of alcohol and maintain their wives and chil-

dren. As, however, the agitation at present is confined to making requests to members of Parliament, we can easily prevent the iniquitous proposal from becoming law.

"I might ask in passing that shareholders refrain from banqueting or entertaining Labour members—that is—or—publicly. I mean, of course, because of the undesirable effect on our employees, who might begin to mistrust those whom at present it is most desirable they should have confidence in." (Hear, hear.)

A Thin Shareholder: "Mr. Chairman, I have been told on good authority that an undesirable organisation, a criminal organisation—a mob of thieves, murderers, slackers, traitors—are undermining the goodwill that exists between the company and its employees, and they are plotting and planning, Mr. Chairman, to make us work, Mr. Chairman, work! Openly they have dared to say it. What are our police doing? What are our Parliaments doing? What are you doing? They should be all jailed, Mr. Chairman; hung, sir, or shot as an example. I don't know what the country is coming to. Pro-Germans, traitors, thieves, murderers."

Mr. Fitzdvyget: "We propose to meet that organisation by advocating efficiency, and we, through the Government, have already started a subsidised organisation for that purpose."

A Fat Shareholder: "I wish to ask, Mr. Chairman, if it is true that you have, because of the strikes that organisation is making, sold all your interests in the company, and are getting out of the wet, leaving us in the muck? (Great disorder.)"

Chairman: "We will meet that organisation with the—"

Voices: "Answer the question."

Chairman (getting red in the face): "The W.E.A.—" (Great disorder.)

Chairman: "I desire to say—"

Voices: "Did you sell?"

Chairman: "The meeting is closed!"

G. TREADON.

VOTING AND SENSE.

"The wage slave has but one advantage over the chattel slave—he has a vote, and he can vote himself out of slavery whenever he gets sense enough to do it."

—Barrier Daily Truth, July 19.

It is most remarkable how that section of the Labour movement that advocates political action still adheres to its policy, in spite of all the evidence as to the absolute futility of Parliament to gain any real gain for the working class. The Labour movement was formed to resist the exploitation of the working class; but in spite of a Labour Government being in power in the Federal House the exploitation has gone on just as merrily as before; in fact, figures prove that exploitation has increased its velocity under Labour rule. Moreover, Labour Governments both in personnel and function have proved themselves to be most baneful. The raiding of the Melbourne Trades Hall by a Labour Government ought to be the last straw on the camel's back for the workers who believe in "the power of the vote."

The fact of the matter is that when advocacy of the vote is not pure opportunism it is sheer ignorance. The capturing of Parliament is just as irrelevant to the class struggle as the capturing of the Church would be. I don't suppose even the most enthusiastic or intelligent Labour or Socialist voter ever expects Parliament to administer the future industrial democracy. Parliament has to go sooner or later; in fact, it has already "gone" so far as the I.W.W. is concerned.

Why refuse to learn from history, from evolution, cosmic and social? New forms never make terms with the old. "Prove yourself virile and fit to conquer in the struggle, and you shall survive." Such is Nature's law, or, in the words of the I.W.W. preamble, "by organising industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old."

However, we industrial unionists can say to the Labour and Socialist voters: "Keep your Parliaments, play with your votes, heap your fawning adulation upon your politicians, but don't seab upon one another in the mine, the factory, or mill."

The working class must be organised internationally and industrially before they have the power to quit wage slavery.

M.S.

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DO YOU WANT
THESE CONDITIONS TO PREVAIL
IN AUSTRALIA?

SOME FACTS ABOUT CONSCRIPTION.

Firstly, we are told that conscription demands the same sacrifice from rich and poor alike. That is not true. As Mr. Blackburn, M.L.A., Victoria, says: "Conscription does not take the breadwinner of the rich mother, the rich wife, the rich child, but conscription does take the breadwinner of the poor mother, the poor wife, the poor child."

If the rich woman loses her son or her husband, the rents from her properties, dividends on her shares, interest on war loans, etc., secure her and her dependents' lives against privation.

In last week's (May 15th) "Worker," the following appears:—

"Let us look at what is happening in one of the European countries under conscription—and the country in question is neither Germany nor Austria."

We quote from an official report of a Labor Federation: "80 per cent. of the workers in the factory are subject to military discipline. That is why no difficulties have arisen. Any mobilised workman who dared make an objection, demanded an increase in wages, or took any action whatever, either collectively or individually, would at once either be sent to the front, or be tried by court-martial. By the militarisation of the workers, they have been handed over to the mercy of their employers, who exercise an arbitrary authority, at the same time making large fortunes by the sweated labor of men, women, and children."

"The hours are terribly long—12 hour day is the rule—and there is no payment for overtime or night-work. Sunday work is general, and a day off is supposed to be given every two or three weeks, according to the locality. But as this is left to the discretion of the employer, continuous 12 hours a day for seven days a week is the general rule. Trade Union conditions are entirely suspended, with the result that the workers are complete slaves of their employers."

We have been repeatedly told that this war is to crush militarism. The Universal Service League is telling the public that it only advocates conscription for the duration of the war. But according to Sir Joseph Cook, the intention is to make it a permanent institution. The following is an extract from his speech, as reported in "Sydney Daily Telegraph," June 29, 1916:

"The declared policy of the Allies to boycott the trade of the enemy after the war means dividing the world largely into two camps. THIS MEANS MORE AND NOT LESS MILITARISM IN THE FUTURE. The present voluntary system can never BE EQUAL TO IT."

"Mr. Hughes advised England to adopt Conscription."—W. H. Kelly, M.H.R.—"D.T.," 29/6/16.

In the House of Commons (England), June 27th, Mr. Tennant, Under-Secretary for War, said that 34 persons (conscientious objectors) had been sentenced to death, but all the sentences had been commuted to penal servitude.

Reader, how would you like that? On June 17th, the Minister for Defence, Senator Pearce, said:

"The promise that the Federal Government made to England has been completely fulfilled."—"Sydney Daily Telegraph."

Why this clamour for Conscription? For what can it be except to get control of the workers in the Industries?

It has been stated that the capitalists of Australia have secretly subscribed £250,000 to be used for bribing politicians and others to introduce Conscription."

Does this explain the attitude of "Labor" politicians towards Conscription?

The following is an extract from an English letter in "Sydney Truth," 18/6/16, showing the uses of Conscription in England:

"One word to those who are apathetic: A system is here now that is going to be tried in Australia. Already Labor is Conscripted. Staunch Unionists are being called up for service, and the Milk-and-Water Brigade left behind."

"Every trick and scheme is being practised by the military authorities."

"Every worker should act in his Union at once. Don't put it off or Conscription will be in before you realise it."

WORKERS OF AUSTRALIA
Don't ALLOW Conscriptionist Politicians to PRUSSIANISE you!!!
BE IMPLACABLE!

Avoid what has, and is, happening in countries where Conscription obtains.

THE CRISIS.

The present is a time of crises. Every day we are reminded in the columns of the capitalist press of the "war crisis," the "Empire crisis," the "commercial crisis," etc., etc.—all are constantly being dimmed into our ears, but neither capitalists, politicians nor journalists have yet expressed any concern about the working class crisis.

To do so would be contrary to all the tactics and guile of those who take no risk of life or limb on the red field of carnage, and yet reap such an immense harvest of profits as to impel them to continue to keep the war going as long as men can be found to fill the vacancies in the trenches. These are the men who form the wolfish pack of "soolers," and though Parliament, Press, and Pulpit are all howling at the working class to go and crush Germany as the one means of preserving "our liberty," none of these institutions breathe a whisper of the impending calamity that, like the sword of Damocles, is hanging over the heads of the working class of Australia at the present moment.

This black conspiracy against all the liberties slowly won during half a century has been hatched in the minds of the men in whom Labor has only too implicitly confided, the Prime Minister, William Morris Hughes, and the Minister for Defence, George Foster Pearce; the first, the ex-sophomoric orator of Sydney, the second, the ex-carpenter of Subiaco. These are the men who are responsible for introducing to Australia one of the most damnable features of the nail-listed Prussianism that both have affirmed should be swept off the face of the earth.

Working men and women of Australia, be not lured to your destruction. It is no military conscription that your enemies are out for; both Lloyd George and Pearce have declared that they have hitherto no trouble in securing soldiers; they can get them quicker than they can drill and equip them. Lloyd George said straight out, "It is compulsion for the workshop we want," and Pearce declared not very long ago that his department had more men enlisted than they. No, your services are required for the factory and workshop on conditions which your masters can dictate. To be seized and hurried off to "somewhere in France" would be the sweetest quality of mercy compared to the fate in store for conscript workers—your liberty to think denied you, to dare to translate your thoughts into action to be held as the blackest crime. All your low splendid powers of resistance to unjust conditions of work, to inadequate pay to too long hours of toil, to the risks of machinery, of the dangers of mining and imperfect scaffolds would be paralysed. As an industrial conscript your first duty would be obedience to any and every order. Every worker knows the greed of the capitalist employer, and the conscript slave would be reduced to the lowest standard of living at which he could produce profits for his owner.

If ever there was a time in the history of Australia when a great peril hung over the heads of the working class it is now. In five or six weeks it is most likely that all chances of striking a blow for work-ing-class exemption will pass away for many long years. The time to act is NOW. In the past struggle we have tried all methods but the right one. If the working class of Australia during this impending crisis is true to itself, it will create such an effect that the memory of all the great struggles of the past will fade into insignificance.

Resist this foul tyranny. Do not believe that it is merely for the duration of the war. Human liberty has ever been threatened by the agency of laws made in the past, and this slavery of soul and body, conscription, if placed on the statute-book, will remain there later to be resurrected to curse your children with its deadly blight.

MONT. MILLER, 108 Edward Street,
Perth, W.A.

CASH IS WANTED.

For the legal defence of Fellow-workers Glynn, Larkin, Reeve, Grant, Bessant, McPherson, Hamilton, and Brice. Champions of the working-class MUST not rot in gaol for the want of the necessary.

GEORGE WAITE (United Laborers' Union), President Anti-Conscription League.

H. CHARLESWORTH (A.R. & Tramway Union), Secretary.
Trades Hall, Sydney.

WE WANT OWNERSHIP.

Work is not sentimental. It has no religious scruples. No flag can arouse it to patriotic enthusiasm. It respects neither age nor sex.

Someone has to work to make shoes, and it makes not the slightest difference whether it is a heathen or a Christian. The shoes will not come upon the scene until the labor of one or the other of them is used to make the footwear.

Years of careful and patient search into the records of the past are not needed for anyone to find out that the shoes made in the factory by Jews, Christians, and the heathens from the Orient all look the same. Jews, Christians and the heathens; in a word, all the expenses of making the shoes, there will be no profit for the factory owners. Profit, then, comes to an owner of a shoe factory because he gets working people to make more shoes than they get paid for. All the wisdom of all the wise men of all ages, all the knowledge of all the learned men who are now in the world will not make a pair of shoes unless somebody does the actual work of making them. Nobody will get a profit unless somebody makes more shoe than he is paid for.

The fact simply stated is: If a man owns a thing he did not make, someone else made a thing he does not own. This state of things cannot be changed by religious bigotry, national fanaticism, nor shooting to kill dissatisfied people. And it is this condition of things that divides society into two classes. One class makes things it does not own, the other class owning things it does not make. The making class is the working class, the owning class is the capitalist class.

No matter how ignorant and stupid a person may be, he knows that it is better to own a thing he makes than to make it for another to own. No man is a safe guide, who tells us it is wiser to get what we make by coaxing the other fellow who owns everything to give you back just a little more of what you make. If you make and own a thing, you do not have to hire somebody to tell you how much of it belongs to you. You do not need a standing army and a big navy to keep you from cheating yourself. But if you do not make things, it will pay you to have lawmakers, army, navy, and private detectives to help you to force the workers to support you and your fellow conspirators. People who made things are poor, not because they are Christians, Jews, or heathens, but because the law gives to others what they make. Foreign working people are not poor because they are foreigners. The law gives others what they make. It is not sex, nor is it age that makes people poor or rich. A ruling class is always rich, and it is rich because it was the government to take away the wealth made by the workers, and this keeps the workers poor.

A sure way, and the best way, for the workers to get what they make is to go straight for ownership, and never mind what happens to those who now live pretty comfortably on the crumbs they gather from the tables of the owning class.

THE DEADLY FAG.

"Each returned soldier received a package of cigarettes"—(News item.)

THAT DEADLY CIGARETTE.

Oh! Nicotine, insidious,
What crimes are laid to thee?
A poison most invidious,
All medicos agree,
And of thy faults—the worst one yet
Is wrapped up in a cigarette.

Ah! Cigarette—thy joys are great;
Ye poison young and old,
And devotees accept their fate,
E'en though their feet grow cold.
Still medicos, if they are let,
Decry the awful cigarette.

Comes from that fearful seat of war,
Maimed, wounded, yet undaunted.
They clamour not of "War What For"
With cowardice untaunted.
Their one reward—our country's
pets—
A package of cheap cigarettes!

Since parsons, priests, the powers that be,
Decry this nicotine,
Since doctors and their ilk—per se—
Tell of its ills they're seen,
Why should our heroes, and our pets,
Be all fed up with cigarettes!

It is legitimate to work hard—when
the boss is looking.

OVER THE HILLS.

Tune: "Down in the Deep."
Over the hills with their blankets they go,
Into the woods and the mines down below;
Blazing the trails, laying the rails,
Piercing the mountains,
Yet onwards they go.

Chorus:

But Master beware! Master, take care;
The wage-slaves are joining this one union grand.

So, beware, beware!
The wage slaves are joining this one union grand.

So beware—beware!

He sails on the seas to far distant lands,
Piling the wealth up on every hand;
Building great castles,
And mansions so grand,
Yet stripped of his wealth
By an exploiting band.

(Repeat Chorus.)

Yet bolts and bars do not prisons make,
When man he strikes for Freedom's sake.
The Industrial Workers bid ye slaves arise,
And the earth will be yours
If you'll only get wise.
(Repeat Chorus.)

THE WAGE SLAVE.

Tune: "Genevieve."
Oh, workmen; O can't you see
That your class is in slavery?
That you—yes, you—and you alone
Can the masters overthrow.
Oh, yet, how hard it is to see
You cowering at your master's knee,
To beg that which is yours by right,
And you could have by your own might.

Chorus:

Workmen, oh, workmen!
The days may come, the days may go,
But till you organise to fight,
The master-class won't grant you right.

Oh, workmen, you know we're right:
Come, organise and use your might.
Industrial Union leads the way.
Then come and join our band to-day.
There's women and children to be freed
From this life of slavery;
The mills and factories claim their toll.
Then, Workers, will you claim your own!

SYDNEY HEADQUARTERS.

All concerned are notified that the address of the Sydney Local is now 403 Sussex Street, Sydney. Correspondence, however, may still be addressed to Box 98, Haymarket.

Subscribers are requested to watch the number of their paper. Post Office regulations will not allow us to mark issues "Expired" as hitherto.

THIS IS NUMBER

90.

WITH THIS ISSUE, PLEASE RENEW.
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ADDRESSES OF I.W.W. LOCALS.

Sydney, Local No. 2.—Secretary-Treasurer, T. Glynn, 330 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, N.S.W.
Broken Hill, Local No. 3.—Secretary-Treasurer, E. J. Kiely, Palace Buildings, Sulphide-street, Broken Hill, N.S.W.
Fremantle, Local No. 5.—Secretary-Treasurer, C. T. Reeve, 18 South-street, Fremantle, W.A.
Perth, Local No. 10.—Secretary-Treasurer, A. Westbrook, Victoria Park, East Cairns (Russian), Local No. 12.—Secretary-Treasurer, W. Yudeaff, Box 201, Cairns, N. Q.
Brisbane, Local No. 7.—Secretary-Treasurer, G. E. Bright, Redfern-street, Woolongabba, Brisbane.

WAGE-WORKERS alone can join the I.W.W. There is no room in the I.W.W. for capitalists, parsons, politicians, landlords, or other undesirable citizens.

Printed and published by T. Glynn, of 19 Queen-street, Sydney, for the Industrial Workers of the World, at 403 Sussex-street, Sydney.