

Direct Action



OFFICIAL ORGAN

Of the
**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF
THE WORLD.**

(Australian Administration).

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Workers of the World Unite against WAR!!

Shelley in answer to his own question, What is slavery? says: "Tis to be a slave in soul, And to hold no strong control Over your own wills, but be All that others make of ye."

If this be true, the whole of the people of Europe and a goodly proportion of those on other continents, must certainly be slaves to the Armament Trust and to those other capitalists and financiers interested in the promotion of the present war.

Certain it is that of the millions of human beings who are at present engaged with each other in a life and death struggle, not one could give an intelligent explanation of his action, or the whence and the wherefore of this sudden desire for carnage and bloodshed with which this so-called civilised world of ours seems to be imbued.

The reason given at the outset was because a titled parasite, known as the Archduke of Austria, had been sent suddenly to hell to answer for his misdeeds by a Serbian assassin. What more natural than that millions of workers should at that instant lose control of their own wills and their own reasoning powers, and be prepared likewise to assassinate and send each other to hell in this world and in the next.

The unscrupulous press, which fosters and promotes the militarist spirit so vital to the interests of the ruling class, and which asks reasonable people to believe that the murder of the Archduke of Austria is the real cause of the present conflagration, is itself not one of the least factors which contribute to the promotion of the war fever.

But there are deeper causes. Liebknecht, the German Socialist, not very many months ago, exposed the machinations of some of the armaments firms of Europe, when he proved that influential newspapers on the Continent were subsidised and specially bribed to promote war scares and thereby help to swell the profits of the "reverend gentlemen of the 'great noblemen,'" and other parasites of all nationalities, who hold shares in the large armament factories of Europe and Great Britain.

Then, too, financiers of the Rothschild type, the great bankers and capitalists who control and manipulate money markets, and without whose aid and permission war on any scale would be impossible, have reasons of their own for supporting a scheme which, on account of the panic it creates, pours stocks and bonds into the treasuries of those who can afford to buy and wait until peace is again restored.

A third and not least important cause may be looked for in the fact that war is a convenient method for the capitalists of all nations to get rid of that great surplus population of workers whom they have plundered and exploited in the past and for whom they have not no further use except to manufacture powder.

It is along these lines that the cause-of-war is to be found; but whatever factor contributed to this greatest of all crimes, even in the blood-red record of Capitalism, one thing stands out clearly, and that is that whoever garners the benefits, the workers will reap a bitter harvest.

The capitalist press points with its rosiest hues. The "glory" and the "honor" of wholesale murder is held up for the time being as the be-all and end-all of humanity. Parading, flag-waving and trumpet blaring are the order of the day. Hangings-on of the system, the whole host of rulers and statesmen, pillars of church and state, politicians of every hue, are all endeavoring to infest the workers with the microbe of patriotism, in the name of which half the crimes of history have been committed.

And the workers will pay dearly for their credulity. Leaving the horrors of actual warfare aside, the misery, disease and death, and the hundreds of thousands of desolate homes, of wives and children left widowed and fatherless—even in this aspect of the case is not dwelt upon, war to the workers is ruinous in its consequences. Already food is at famine prices in Europe, and ever here in Australia, the cost of the necessities of life has perceptibly risen. In the near future, the position must become intensified. Starvation for the unemployed, and semi-starvation even for those who are working, will be the inevitable result. All to gratify the personal greed of some, and the vanity and prejudices of others.

The Boer war, as indeed every war of recent years, is an illustration of the mendacity with which unscrupulous war-mongers gull and afterwards betray those workers who are foolish enough to be their dupes. The recent massacre of workers in the streets of Johannesburg, and the attempt to crush every symptom of organisation, is something which intelligent wage-earners might well remember.

The workers owe no debt of gratitude, but a debt of a different kind which will yet be settled, to the class that promotes, and benefits by war. The capitalists have never yet endangered their cowardly carcasses by settling their own quarrels. Why should they? Millions of their unthinking slaves are quite ready to go into a delirium of enthusiasm at the mere sight of a rag at the end of a stick, and stab, shoot and kill while their capitalist masters drink success to the shedding of working-class blood in the mansions, clubs, and flash brothels of the cities of the world.

Differences of language and geographical boundaries which separate the workers in imagination, but not in the reality of their common interests, are chosen as pretexts by this blood-thirsty tribe to shatter the bonds of the ever increasing international fraternity and solidarity of the working class, that their own interests may remain safe from proletarian aggression for some further period.

Who knows, however? The reaction may teach the workers of all countries what argument and logic never could, that it is time wealth, and power were taken out of the hands of social criminals who fatten on the blood of human beings as the vulture fattens on its prey, who make a holocaust to their god, Profit, by the sacrifice of millions of lives, and who have made twentieth century "civilisation" a by-word for posterity.

"Oh! turn their wealth to arms, and make War; for thy beloved sake, On wealth and war and fraud, whence they Drew the power which is their prey."

T. G.

I.W.W. Revival in New Zealand.

There is not much doing in New Zealand in the revolutionary line. The workers are doing the zig-zag from the strike to that illusory "weapon," the ballot-box. The toilers here were lashed into revolt last year, and they got well soured; and no wonder, when they hadn't practised Direct Action on a large scale for over twenty years. So Labour is now like a giant half stunned by a blow, and in that dazed condition striking blindly at the shadow of the thing that dealt the blow. In other words the workers' attention is being focussed on politics.

In the defeat of the 1913 strike the workers suffered; but they inflicted very severe losses on the employers; so much so that the bosses would go to some lengths to avoid another strike like it now. If the "red" leaders here were as revolutionary and sincere as they were so fond of telling us they would spend more time on pointing out the real causes of failure and less time in trying to switch working class energy and funds into the radical capitalistic politics of the S.D.P.

A labour conference has just been held in Wellington and, as usual, paid officials were the dominant element. Eight-pound-a-week-Rossens, the same Arthur who persuaded the Auckland strikers to give up their guns, was there with the usual dope. Some queer measures were advocated, including chopping off the heads of all those who advocate sabotage, syndicalism, and anarchism. The usual attempts were made to invest autocratic power in the hands of an executive. These and other capitalist ideals were freely voiced. Pessimism was the note of the approachable reds who attended. It is now pretty obvious that the once-militant N.Z.F. of L., as such is dead enough—if it wasn't dead last July.

Some of the late Federation leaders addressed a meeting at the old Opera House last Saturday week. One of them stated that the Federation had never turned the Rank and File down! This could only mean the executive, and one was tempted to sing out "They never did otherwise!" But it is useless to waste time wrangling with these leaders; the spreading of I.W.W. principles among the workers is the direct way.

A small bunch of fellows met last week to consider forming an I.W.W. local in Wellington. A locally noted switchback philosopher, after expressing himself favourable to forming a local, advocated "job control"—from a craft-union meeting room somewhere off the job. Job control is what the I.W.W. is after, but we need an outside propaganda or we'll get nowhere. Dual organisation, too, is right if it gets results. The outcome of the meeting was the formation of a committee to develop a local. There have been several enquiries about the local already, including word from the well-known "Red" Tooney, of Auckland fame.

"Gun" Sullivan passed through here recently on his way south.

The Wellington S.P., which used to function like an I.W.W. local, is rapidly ossifying. It is now composed chiefly of philosophers who play poker, S.L. peers who mangle Marx, and enthusiasts who teach the Tango.

Of the three I.W.W. locals, existing in N.Z. prior to the strike, one has been destroyed and the other two almost emasculated. They were undeniably a potent factor for labour in N.Z.; but, as they were never strong in numbers, the sea taring far and wide of the most active members nearly killed the organisation. The remnants are showing signs of activity again, however; and, although "Fat" and the labour misleaders bug the idea that they have killed the organisation, we hope to disturb their dreams in the near future by some active agitation.

F. HANLON.

We are looking forward to getting more bundle orders, and subs from N.Z. Come on workers, you must be sick of the tripy "Shirker" and its twaddle. You want the paper without the bosses' name on every page.

The Machine Idea.

How it acts instead of Human Brains.

Machines, like men, present themselves before the employer and seek employment. They ask, as men, women and children do, for the privilege of being used up in the process of production. Here I am, one seems to say, I have but to prove to you, an exploiter, that I am capable of producing more commodities at less expense than any two of the human machines you now employ. Install me in your factory and I guarantee to do even more than you expect of me.

Your slaves, humble to prostration, servile as to the most autocratic king, diligent to serve as you to command, must needs submit to my greater power to yield to you larger quantities of the almighty dollar.

Their efforts are feeble when brought into competition with mine. To defeat me they must again defeat themselves by bringing forth, through their brains and muscles, a better iron machine than I am. As I take my place in the plants of industry the old machinery is scrapped and the men who worked them—"skilled workers"—are dispensed with. Cheap labour is my specialty, the technical knowledge is now in me, the machine.

Your interest in the men I can displace ceases, when once they fail to overthrow all competitors that are pitched against them in the process.

Your attention, like that of the villain in the play, must ever be transferred to the victim that the greater satisfies your cravings.

Sentiment you have, morality you may make yourself believe you have, but this is certain, either naturally or by compulsion you are a glutton and, being in competition

with the other gluttons, this forces you to engage me instead of the men, for I am the better machine. As a commodity producer, I am the wonder of the age. I bring joy and gladness to your heart. That is now, but some day the workers will get wise and use me as well. You own me, but they control me. Amongst them they control every commodity producing machine. They have more power over the machines than anything else inside or outside industry; more and much more power than you have in your parliaments and law courts.

Some day they will use me to defeat you.

E. MOYLE.

Short Arm Jolts.

If you can't do enough for master with the business end of a pick, use the other end and master will dance the tango.

"For the want of a nail the horse was lost"; for the want of a bolt the strike was won.

You know the way without leaders. When leaders attempt to lead you let them lose themselves.

Commodities and slaves are produced together. Commodities, through the careful preservation of the natural resources of the earth by the working class; slaves, through the appropriation of the same commodities by the master class.

A man who acts is worth a million jaw smiths and pipe dreamers.

The Preamble of the I.W.W.

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 centreing 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 interest 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 wages 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 capitalist, 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.

How to Join.

Any wage worker wishing to join the Industrial Workers of the World can obtain information by applying to the nearest local I.W.W. secretary. If there is no branch of the I.W.W. in your district you may become a member by making application through the post to any secretary listed in the paper.

Do you agree to abide by the constitution Will you diligently study its principles and make yourself acquainted with its purposes?

Name
Occupation
Industry
Street Address
City
State

The above applicant, having subscribed to the principles of the preamble, and having answered in the affirmative to the questions, expresses his desire to become a member of the Industrial Workers of the World. To Local Union No. Initiation

By
Cut this out. Fill in. Post to Sec. Trs., with Initiation Fee.

SABOTAGE.

By WALKER C. SMITH.

In order to gain certain demands, without losing their jobs, the Austrian postal workers strictly observed the rule that all mail matter must be weighed to see if the proper postage was affixed. Formerly they had passed, without weighing, all those letters and parcels which were clearly under weight, thus living up to the spirit of the regulation but not to its exact wording. By taking each separate piece of mail matter to the scales, carefully weighing same and then returning it to its proper place, the postal workers had the office congested with unweighed mail on the second day. This method is more effective than striking, especially when used on a large scale.

In 1905 the railway workers of Italy gave a good example of the value of legal sabotage. They simply remained at their accustomed places and obeyed all the rules and regulations. When a person purchased a ticket they had to present the exact change. When they failed to comply, the rule in question was read to them. The wicket closed exactly on the set time, leaving long lines of waiting passengers. Inside the yards the same thing was going on. Every car was examined to make sure that it was in good condition. Every nut and bolt was tested before a car was allowed to leave the yard. Switching engines moved at the rate of speed called for in the regulations. When the indignant passengers tried to leave the cars they were held by the station guards and were shown the rule that forbade them to leave. Trains were thus held for hours, and finally when released from the station they were not allowed to run beyond the legal rate of speed and all signals were scrupulously observed. The service was completely demoralized within a short time.

So sabotage may be expected not only to form an increasingly popular weapon against capitalism, but also to be a means of bringing about the speedy downfall of any governmental ownership schemes that may be hatched for the purpose of blocking the road to industrial freedom. *Only with the gaining of industrial freedom will sabotage stop.*

XIII.

When a strike breaks out the employers are quick to seize some prominent figures in the fight to place under arrest on serious charges. This in itself is not a bad thing for it has the immediate effect of solidifying the strikers. But when these arrests are multiplied to such an extent that special publicity cannot be had in each case, and conviction results, the workers are weakened. The increasing contempt for legal procedure will automatically shut off funds to support such cases unless it can be shown that the propaganda value of the trials is equal to the amount of cash expended. Yet it is certain that no organization proclaiming that "an injury to one is an injury to all" can abandon any of the victimized workers. New tactics must be employed in such cases. *Sabotage is the most logical weapon to force a discontinuance of the practice of arresting strike leaders.*

Let the capitalist be reasonably certain that any attempt to judiciously strangle the spokesmen of the workers will be met by a prolonged series of mishaps in the industries, and their hands will be stayed. Let the depriving of the workers of their liberty be a signal to deprive the employer of all profits, and arrests will cease to multiply. Law is a thing in which the wage slaves play no part, but industry is the place where the employers are impotent when the workers decide to act. The same thing may be applied to cases where active union men, committee members, etc., are discharged. The employer generally starts his black-list work at a season when a strike is undesirable from a working class viewpoint, and the discharges may even be for the purpose of provoking a premature strike. Sabotage should be the answer to the disruptive attempts of the employers. Then again, there are minor grievances in the shops which the employer refuses to adjust and which are scarcely serious enough to warrant the tying up of industry. After due notification sabotage can be employed to gain the demands. This is especially true where the whole body are not class conscious enough to engage in an intermittent or irritation strike.

Sabotage has been called a confession of weakness because of its use when a strike has failed, where a strike is not advisable, and where the organization is without mass power because of being in the process of formation. Admitting the charge, is it not true that the workers are still largely without consciousness of power? It would be suicidal to act on the theory that we are to-day clothed with the might for which we are struggling. Being weak we must guard our embryonic organization, using every means within our grasp to save that of compromise with our enemy, the employing class.

Another childish charge is that sabotage cannot gain any benefit for the workers that could not as well be gained by thorough industrial organization. Can the battles of the present be fought with the weapons of the future? We are not armed to-day with thorough organization, but every toiler in the industries has sabotage at his command. With thorough industrial organization there would be no wage system and it is idle to suppose that the capitalists will allow the workers to build a union to displace them without making strenuous attempts to wreck the structure. Sabotage can be used as a means of fighting capitalism in its attempts to stop the creating of a new society. The above mentioned argument sounds strangely like that of the politician. We are told to elect a mayor to prevent violence against striking workers. Suggesting that the militia would be sent if the mayor refused to protect private property according to his oath of office we are told that it is the governor who also must be elected before we strike. When the regular army is employed we are gravely informed that a Socialist President is the necessary article to win strikes with. Then to crown it we are told by some that strikes will cease when a socialist is president, while others maintain that the president will abolish his office and turn the industries over to the workers.

But strike leaders are being jailed and active rebels victimized now and we must meet conditions as they exist and not as they will be when the present system is overthrown. Sabotage is a weapon of the existing daily combat between the masters and the slaves.

XIV.

"Open Mouth" sabotage shows the weapon in its best form, a form

which allows the spy but little place to act; which does not allow use of police; which strikes at the fraudulent practices on which Capitalism is based.

Commerce to-day is founded on fraud. Capitalism's standard of honesty demands that the wage slave lie to everyone except his employer. An honest business man is a myth and an honest clerk could not sell the shoddy goods of the merchants. There is not a single portion of the commerce of the entire world where exact truthfulness would not spell financial ruin under present conditions.

In the foodstuffs industry open mouth sabotage is peculiarly potent. Its use will at once enlist the support of a large portion of the public. It becomes one of the highest social acts. Let the workers, instead of striking, or even when on strike, expose the methods of manufacture and the boss will soon come to terms.

Let the workers in the candy factories tell of the glucose, terra alba and other poisonous substances in the candies and the consumer becomes hostile to the manufacturer.

Let the cooks tell how food is prepared for the table, of how foul meats are treated with chemicals so they may be served; let the dish-washers, waiters and other hotel and restaurant workers tell of conditions under which dishes are "washed" and the orders "prepared," and the employers will be forced into submission.

Let the building workers make known the substitution that invariably takes place in erecting structures by contract.

Let the firemen spread the news of boilers in which steam is generated to a dangerous point in order to save expenses.

The factory workers can tell of goods piled up beyond the fire limit. The workers engaged in the building of bridges, dams, reservoirs and structures of a similar nature, can tell of inferior materials used therein and of methods of construction not according to specifications, oftentimes being the direct cause of many deaths. Workers on the railroads can tell of faulty engines, unsafe trestles. Marine transport workers would do well to tell of the insufficient number of lifeboats, of inferior belts, and so forth. The textile worker can tell of the shoddy which is sold as "wool."

The persistent use of open mouth sabotage, besides gaining the demands of the workers, will be more effective in bringing about the stoppage of adulteration of foods than "pure food laws" or other remedial legislation.

Nor does open mouth sabotage end there. The workers carry with them the secrets of the masters. Let them divulge these secrets, whether they be secret methods of manufacture that competitors are striving to learn, or acts of repression directed against the workers. *Let the masters know that henceforth they must deal with industrial moting.*

Both France and this country can record cases where it has been found expedient to have loyal workers pose as detectives so as to ferret out the secrets of the masters' guardians. The famous case in Boise, Idaho, is one example; and in nearly every great battle the working class forces are forewarned of some of the intended attacks.

With this effectual form of sabotage we do not think that even the reformer can quarrel. In fact, he is a party to it at all times and he justifies it on humanitarian grounds.

CONCLUSION.

Labor produces wealth—all wealth belongs to labor.

We, the workers, mental and manual with our muscle, mind and skill, wrest raw materials from the heart of Nature and with infinite pain fashion them into the things of special value. We are the creators—to us belong the products. So far as actual productive processes are concerned we are in possession of industry, yet we have neither ownership nor control because of an absurd belief in property rights.

We stand aghast at the things of our own making. We create property and let it master us. We build things great and small and we who are greater than all stand in abject fear of our own creations, foolishly thinking them to have some supernatural power—some force outside ourselves.

Property and precedent rule us all to-day and the precedents rest, one and all, upon a property basis. Things of flesh and blood and bone and steel and tissue are held cheap as compared to the things of iron and steel and stone and brick and wood. "Property is robbery," said Proudhon. If this means that reverence for "property rights" is the basis of all exploitation, then Proudhon was right. The idea that wealth is greater than its creators has enslaved the world's toilers.

We have damned ourselves because we have thought that the right of the bakeshop and the bread was greater than the right of the working man's empty stomach. That same foolish belief has crowded countless thousands into death-dealing tenements, while on the healthy outskirts of the city there are numerous vacant dwellings. Garment workers are out at the elbows while the warehouse shelves groan beneath their load of clothing. "Property" is indeed a hideous Frankenstein which will destroy us unless we are first able to destroy the ganacity with which it is surrounded.

Sabotage is discredited by those who believe in property rights. It is the weapon of those who no longer reverence the thing that fetters them. Its advocacy and use help to destroy the "property illusion." The parasites, who have property, oppose sabotage, while the producers, who have poverty, are commencing to wield that potent weapon.

Is the machine more than its makers? Sabotage says "No!" Is the product greater than its producers? Sabotage says "No!" *Sabotage places human life—and especially the life of the only useful class—higher than all else in the universe.*

Will you keep private property and public poverty, master class morals and working class misery, capitalism and crime—or will you arise in your outraged manhood and take a stand for sabotage, solidarity and a new social order in which there will be neither master nor slave? *For sabotage or for slavery? Which?*

Finis.

Arbitration

Chucked Over-board.

Only useful to the Boss in good times.

Holman again betrays the Workers.

The Labor Party is bringing down legislation, to cancel all industrial awards.

This will relieve the employers of paying an existence wage, and it will give to them unlimited opportunity to take advantage of the unprecedented, and rapidly increasing army of unemployed. In doing this the Labor Party is proving once again that it CANNOT control or dictate to the employing class.

Organise in the One Big Union, ye workers, and help us to compel the employer to preserve the pay envelope, and to resist the rise in the cost of living.

The Labor Party has not indicated that the members are going to get paid less than the regular £500.

The Bosses' profits are not to be interfered with.

To Hell with the Boss and his Labor Party, join the One Big Union.

Literature in Stock.

Capital: Karl Marx, 3 volumes, per vol. 8s.

Value Price and Profit: Marx, bound 2s, paper 6d.

Sabotage: Pouget, bound 2s, paper 1s.

Right to be Lazy: Lafargue, bound 2s, paper 6d.

Militant Proletariat: Lewis, bound 2s.

The Evolution of Property: Lafargue, bound 2s.

The New Unionism: Tridon, paper 1s 8d.

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"Solidarity": I.W.W. American organ: Subscription, 7s 6d per annum, posted: Single copies, 2d.

"The Voice of the People": The Lumberjack's I.W.W. organ: Subscription, 7s 6d per annum, posted: Single copies, 2d.

Look out for "Hunger," a play, by Ben Legere, in three acts. Will be off the press shortly.

Postage paid on all orders of 1/- or over.

Lit. Sec., I.W.W. Local No. 2,

330 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Look Before You Leap!

Think Before You Act!

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE WORKMEN OF AUSTRALIA

Working Men Have Nothing To Gain Through War. The only people who gain by it are the four or five leading financiers...

By bringing about the way they pursue to gain absolute control of the natural resources and machinery of production...

The war will bring about the desired effect. Already they have rushed to the Stock Exchanges and bought up their shares for whatever they could get for them...

All the money available is being shipped from this country to Europe and sent to the scene of war for the purpose of buying the resources of the countries involved.

These financial matters will not stop at drawing the surplus money from the neutral nations, but they will also draw up the food supply of these countries.

How the War will affect the Workers of Australia

At the present moment several industries are closing down in Australia and others are being given a step in a similar direction, all of which will throw out of employment thousands of workers owing to the fact that the material is being sent to the scene of hostilities. This too in the face of the cost of living being doubled within the next few weeks...

During the progress of the war there will be a continually increasing demand for wheat, meat, and other foodstuffs, and also a continually diminishing supply which is bound to result in an enormous increase in the prices of the necessities of life.

The capitalist who control the food supplies and products of Australia will naturally strive for the most remunerative markets.

We often hear the capitalist say, and his insipid prostitute, the Press, declare that the workers should be prepared to fight for 'Liberty, Health and Home' and sacrifice their very lives to defend the country.

Let us analyse the stock phrases of these big paunched parasites who hold of 'Liberty, Health and Home' and 'Love and Loyalty' which sophistry many ignorant workers fall easy victims.

What the capitalist has got to sell these very people, if THEY can't sell their products for more money in the war zones, even if it feeds an alleged hostile army, will immediately rush to the 'foodstuffs' out of the country, and leave the patriotic working class defenders without a loaf to eat or a soap bar on the premises.

When the capitalist has got to sell his wools with millions of golden sovereigns, the millions of women and children of the working class are starving for the want of food, the patriotic hypocrite of 'Liberty, Health and Home' states that his generosity by throwing a few shillings into the 'Distress Committee, remarkable for its always being short of ready cash' and his 'charitable' donations to the families of the brave defenders of 'Liberty, Health and Home'.

Workers of Australia. Simplicity is well enough in its place, but like patriotism the mouthers cannot use it to stop the cries of

their hungry children, or to protect the blood-shedders against the cold of winter.

During the war, every ounce of wheat, every pound of meat that is produced, is handled and transported out of Australia, by the workers of Australia to feed the marauding soldiers of a Continental power...

A MAN WHO WILL BE USELESS AS PART TO STARVE HIS OWN WIFE AND CHILDREN IS NO MAN AT ALL.

'LISTEN!' It is only by immediate organisation on the part of the workers of Australia that they can avert a catastrophe falling upon the Australian people. The roustabout, workman, tradesworker, seaman, and other workmen must get their heads together to prevent food, etc. being sent out of Australia. If an emergency crop is kept in Australia, prices will remain at normal, and the workers will not suffer.

What are you going to do about it? THE DIRECT ACTION PARTY TO STOP THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM! ACT NOW!!!

WAR, WAGES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

The 'Sydney Morning Herald,' in a leader on August 5th, fore-shadowed the result of the war for the working-class of Australia.

Always with an eye to the interests of the class it represents, the Herald seizes upon the war, for which that class and its party are responsible, as a pretext for the reduction of wages.

'The chief difficulty,' remarks the Herald, 'is that for the past few years we have enjoyed prosperity, which has created a somewhat artificial standard of wages. These were justifiable as long as the peace lasted, but a period of general depression it is by no means likely that the present scale can be maintained.'

'The workers,' says the Herald, 'quite conceivably may have to decide whether a loaf is not better than no bread at all.'

It is the intention of the Herald to conceal from the workers the fact that hitherto four-fifths of the class represent a 'bread and butter' class. As a consequence of the war, the Herald is aware of course, that the anxiety to reduce the workers' standard to still smaller proportions, hence its call for the workers to be prepared to sacrifice their lives for 'Liberty, Health and Home' and sacrifice their very lives to defend the country.

'We hope,' adds the Herald, 'with typical hypocrisy, "that such a contingency (the reduction of wages) will not arise, but it is well to be on our guard to the possibility.'

Quite so break the news gently on the strains of Rufe Gentry, and 'Love and Loyalty' which sophistry many ignorant workers fall easy victims.

As the Herald 'hints unemployment on a scale hitherto unknown in this country is possible in the near future. Alcoholism and others hitherto engaged in the distribution and production of commodities, will be thrown out of the country, and leave the patriotic working class defenders without a loaf to eat or a soap bar on the premises.

This applies to every country in the world today, as well as to Australian workers for their industry. They have produced such a surplus and above their own wages, first of all been enabled to employ it in it creating implements

for human destruction, and what Parasitism has not consumed millions spending by paying millions more of whom it has lived upon to murder each other for its enjoyment.

But there is just a danger for the workers, and the class it speaks for, that they may wake up and see through the callousness and brutality of it all.

When their 'periods of prosperity' mean at best but the right to be slaves for a mere subsistence of when they have filled the coffers of their masters to such a degree that war is conceived as the only means of squandering it, and when in the midst of this waste of wealth, death, and poverty and starvation are to be their share, there is a possibility that they may not be so ready to 'succumb' themselves to the 'Herold's' fondly imagines.

"Labour" Parties and "Gorsave."

The working class of Australia are to be congratulated upon the choice of representatives. The march of a political party, the only choice is the State and Federal Labour Parties, are characteristic of the enormous influence played by environment in moulding and resolidating opinions and principles.

Kingship is a relic of barbarism and slavery, and has always been identified with the subjugation of the lower orders, the curtailment of freedom, and the maintenance of an aristocracy of idleness.

So naturally to expect strangers to principle like Labour politicians, to throw up a meek feigned worth and a hypocritical pantomime of zeal to serve, in George Percy Wetton is a matter outside the realms of possibility.

Mr. Fisher has wallowed up to the eyes in the past, in the filth and sweltering atmosphere of cringing courtiership, to attain the dog-collared of a P.M. Councilmanship.

Now when George the Least, by the Grace of God, and the ignorance of the working class, Emperor of the Britons, and £1,000,000 shareholder in the American Steel Trust, in collusion with royal monarchs and shareholders, wants a great 'Gorsave' to create a vast demand for steel, Mr. Fisher and his gang, and are prepared to 'give the last man and penny that Australia has got' to see George and his cobbers through their business deal.

When, Henry Fisher, let us know where your party stands, and the place where you shall find your lot, and the place where you are over £100,000,000, will it be so far back in the Macdonald's pastures that you will not be sacrificed it upon the altar of Greed?

In the N.S.W. State Parliament the Labour brigade don't even plead patriotism as an excuse for when your war was mentioned after some started the 'Grows' Anthem, Grows' the Labour Party, and Grows' and let their ductless tongue to enhance the effect.

They having got their wind again they proceeded to murder 'Kale Britannia' in a manner that would credit to a crowd of music hall patriots. If a British victory, probably have the opportunity of seeing their chosen Labour members, red, white and blue squeaker, in a blood list in their own hands.

It is no novelty to see £500 a year getting together for war and 'Grows' patriotism. But for the Labour members, and their shadow spotters, want to be the let them the first time in their lives, genes, where men are being slaughtered, where human limbs, shattered, are strewn, and diving horses blood skyward, in an explosion.

For George Wetton, the writer has no time for him as a king, and precious little for him as a man, but for character, stamina, intellectual duck-stoves of Australia well-

skinned. OPINIONS NEVER, NEVER NEVER SHALL BE SLAVES.'

How! it forth, ye exponents of labour. There is no army of white slaves upon the streets of your motherland, in the sweat shops of your country; no army of unemployed walking your streets at night.

Sing it loud, and louder, we see a year sons of a Mighty Mother. We are FREE! FREE! FREE!

Down all the stretch of that blood-red tragedy of blood and tears which is the history of the working class, men have been crucified, and gaoled and tortured for their sins, and their present day representatives of Labour would best check by soul with the capitalist carion for 'Blood! Blood! Blood!'

'Empire and King' is the cry of these venerated parvenus who have labelled themselves.

Say, fellow worker did you ever get the number of politicians who died at the war in South Africa from disease or bullets, or in 1875-185, or 1871?

If the politicians of Australia war, them make them take their own carcasses to the firing line to be targets for modern machine guns and food for cholera. And as Kirkpatrick says in 'What, What For?' 'If the workers would CUT THEM CUT THEIR OWN THROATS.'

Written by TOM BARKER, at 330 Castlereagh-street, Sydney.

JOLTS.

Each of the Governments involved disclaims responsibility for the truth. There is a considerable grain of truth in the charge that the Governments and their soldiers are the playthings of modern financiers.

The boss puts up with Arbitration awards when trade is busy, so that the demands of the worker shall be kept within 'the law' which the bosses' Parliament makes. In times of depression and unemployment, a kindly Labour Government conscientiously removes all restriction on exploitation, and the only law recognised is that of supply and demand.

The comparative infamy of the Government is shown by the fact that no patriot has yet been able to throw an insight on that psychological phenomenon, the patriotic worker.

The Labor Government has invited the 'great' Liberal leader, Mr. Wade to join the Cabinet. As if there were any doubt that the difference between Holman and Government was one of twaddledum and twiddledee.

Holman in the N.S.W. Parliament are we confronted. I am afraid, with a period which will involve sacrifices upon every member of the community.' Tighten up your belts, slaves, this means trouble. Politicians and those they speak for never sacrifice anything—but you.

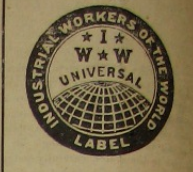
John Payne, the M.P. for Grey, has discovered that politics is no play for the animal men. He called up Massey and his cock herd and might with truth have included all the other politicians in the Outlets. The Labor crowd are about as feeble a bunch as ever infuriated their way into the tallspool.

Join the I.W.W. and help us to shorten the hours, and lengthen the pay.

Don't forget that Fisher says 'The Price paid for organised Labour to the Labor Government for the preference to Iominists is the SURRENDER of our right TO STRIKE! All capitalist bosses agree on such policies. Why should the workers?'

Sydney Local Notice

- Monday Night—Economic Class. Tuesday Night—Speakers and Read. Wednesday Night—Lecture in Hall. Thursday Night—Business Meeting. Friday Night—Bathurst Street Meet. Saturday Night—Bathurst Street Meeting and Parramatta Meeting. Sunday Afternoon—Meeting in Domain. Sunday Night—Lecture in Hall. For fortnightly lists of Direct Action. Up-to-date Library and Reading-Room.



Adelaide Activities.

Meets every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, at Odiflow's Hall, Mooltas, street, off Hinders-street.

Educational classes are held each alternate Wednesday, and all workers are requested to attend.

The fee for membership is 2/6. Don 1/- per month.

Slaves interested in lettering their conditions should attend our open-air meetings, which are held opposite the wells, Victoria Square every Saturday night.

Any further information desired will be furnished on request by H. T. KELLY, Secy., 13 Wilcox-street, Adelaide.

Important.

Fellow workers and locals are invited to send in reports of activities, news items, and short snappy articles. Above all, don't send long, windy articles. The tactics and strategy of the writers are bound to be disappointing. Anything of a personal nature will not be entertained, although criticism is always welcomed. The first idea of the organization is to promote the tactics and strategy of the I.W.W., and, therefore, normally, this paper will express those ideas primarily.

Should any subscribers fail to receive acknowledgement of their subscriptions the receipt of 'DIRECT ACTION' will be equivalent to such.

Should any subscriber not receive his paper he should immediately notify the Manager, 330 Castlereagh-street.

On the expiration of subscriptions the number of the last issue for subscribers will appear on the wrapper of the paper.

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Sydney Local No. 2: C. Rees, Sec. Retary and Treasurer.

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