

'An Injury to One an INJURY to All.'



VOL. 4., NO. 118 Registered at the General Post-office, Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper. SYDNEY, April 21st, 1917. ONE PENNY.

BROKEN HILL.

Wobblly activities have been given a boost recently as a result of the visits of Fellow-Workers Wilson and Jackson.

The local always welcomes new wobblly blood as it livens affairs considerably. 'Twas unfortunate that our fellow-workers' visit was so short.

The A.M.A. delegate, George Kerr, has returned and reported the success attending his efforts towards arousing the workers of Australia to a realisation of the dangers confronting the working class, if they allow militant fighters to be silenced.

The workers of Broken Hill are determined to see their comrades in the class war released from gaol.

P. Brookfield, the local politician, has reiterated his determination to "fight like hell for the release of the I.W.W. men." He has also been saying nasty words about our glorious Empire and Union Jack, for which our loyal Labor Party threatens expulsion unless he recants. "Brookie" refuses to do so. Emphatically so. The situation looks interesting, and militants look on with interest.

The local activities are going strong. Educational and speakers' classes have been reformed, stickers printed, and the literature department enlarged. Business meetings very well attended.

It has been decided to accept Monty Miller's offer to come to the Hill, and the aged battler will soon be on his way here. All look forward to an enthusiastic revival when the Eureka fighter arrives.

The arrests of F. W.'s, Metroze and Wilson has added greater volume to the rumblings of indignation and protest here.

Remember! We of the surging blood never forget!

The threatened clash between the A.M.A. and I.W.W. has been averted. Both organisations realise that all minor differences must be subordinated to the one dominant, all pervading issue; that is, to set free the victims of capitalist antagonism and vengeance who are at present confined in that institution of physical and mental agony and despair—gaol.

With this supreme object in view, the leaders of the line of lods are prepared to unite ORGANEL, and so hasten the victorious day when the gaol doors are levered open by industrial solidarity and our comrades step out from their living tombs into the glorious light of freedom, and once more take their stand in the ranks of the fighting workers—free men, never again to be bludgeoned into silence by the tyrant and despotic and cowardly masters of Australia.

HARRY MEATHERINGHAM.
Press Corres. to "D.A."

MELBOURNE.

The advocates of the One Big Union have been very busy of late pushing on the propaganda of the only cause worth fighting for. Increased attention has been paid to us of late by the minions of law and order. Our Sunday night lectures are also attended by some of His Majesty's police force.

The parliamentary inclined received a severe shock and some good information a few Sundays back when P. W. Brown lectured up on Politics and Parliament. The lecturer forced home some excellent points, and exposed the parliamentary institutions as being useless for the workers.

P. W. Jackson put in some good work during his stay in Melbourne, and good results are assured.

The I.W.W. is once again getting a free advertisement, this time at the hands of the National Party.

Despite all the talk and wind and bombast by the stay at home—"Win the Warites," the I.W.W. sails along as serenely and determined as ever.

NORMAN JEFFERY.

A humble slave, I despise a rebellious slave I respect.

—Wendell Phillips.

Important Decision Arrived at by Trades' Union Conference.

Workers Watch Out.

"Our Boys Must be Free."

The Fourth Trades' Union Conference on behalf of the imprisoned I.W.W. men was held at 403, Sussex street, Sydney, on Saturday, April 10th, 1917.

The following organisations were represented:—

Fed. Mine Employees' Union, Cobar; Scarborough Miners' Lodge, Coledale Miners' Lodge, Lithgow Miners' Lodge, Hermitage Miners' Lodge, Amal Miners' Association, Broken Hill; Australian Society of Engineers, Lithgow; Small Arms Union, Lithgow; Timber Workers' Union, Sydney; Rockchoppers' Union, Sydney; Cokeworkers' Union, Lithgow; Sydney No. 2, A.S.E. Fed. Liquor Union, Sydney; Redfern Amal. Carpenters, Industrial Workers of the World, Defence

and Release Committee, Fed. Clothing Union, Fed. Building Laborers, Coach-makers' Society.

Mr. F. Lowden, Scarborough Miners' Lodge, presided, and Mr. Tom Barker, R. and D. Committee, acted as secretary.

Encouraging reports were received from most delegates, and all expressed the wish to do something immediately for the release of the men.

Some very important motions were carried, and things are beginning to look good.

The next conference is called for Saturday, April 21st, to consider the reply from the Government, and arrange agitation accordingly.

Lost—and Found.

He wandered into the office in an absent-minded way, and gazed about him in a vacant, dreamy manner.

"Can we assist you? Have you lost anything?" we murmured.

"I can't find it anywhere," he said, perplexedly.

"Can't find what?" we queried.
"The working class," he replied. "I used to hear its voice so clearly; to see it rising in might, so strong and virile—and now—"

"Yes?" we said, sympathetically.
"O for the touch of a vanished hand, And the sound of a voice that is still," he replied. "Where is the working class?"

"We can tell you where twelve of its members are, at any rate," we said.

"Where?" he asked, eagerly.

"In Long Bay and Bathurst Gaols," we replied, sadly.

"But where are the rest?" he said.
"Oh, they are still running trains, and building houses, and laying roads, and working cargo, and—"

"The sun is dimmed by clouds," he said. "But they will emerge—they will

come forth, glorious in their strength, terrible as an army with banners!"

"We trust it is but a temporary obscurity," we said.

"And when they do," he said, enthusiastically, "I shall hear their voice again, proclaiming the eternal principles of Liberty, Fraternity, Equality!"

"We trust so," we replied, gravely.

"Justice and Freedom, and the opening of prison doors to them that are bound!" he queried.

"Yes, yes!" we cried, catching his enthusiasm.

"Thank you," he said. "You have relieved my mind so much. I feared that the working class was not cowed—but dead! Good-bye."

"Good-bye," we replied, watching his figure move away more briskly.

"Temporarily cowed, but its fighting spirit not dead!" we murmured, as we bent to work again. "The opening of prison doors to them that are bound depends upon that!"

A. E. BROWN.

THE NUMBER OF THIS PAPER IS

118.

MILDURA.

The fruit picking season is now at a close. To-morrow will see most of the slaves on their road back to the city's slums, or out into the never, never, chasing another job, and seeking a fresh master.

The small bunch of wobblies here made every effort to induce the slaves to demand a higher rate of wages, but the A.W.U. officials, thinking their sweet, rosy 20 bob a day job in danger, bluffed and bullied the workers into remaining loyal to their precious agreement with the fruit cocky.

However, one result of our constant agitation has been to bring the factory workers out in demand of 12s per day, instead of the A.W.U. cum cocky agreement wage of 10s 4d. And incidentally to bring the £1 a day parasites out on the street corner, every Saturday night, where they divide their precious time betwixt abuse of the I.W.W. and worship of the "grand labour stalwarts" (politicians they mean), who, if elected, will find plenty of work for mugs. This latter assertion is always greeted with loud clapping of corny paws. Work! Well that seems the only word which is capable of stirring the slaves to any degree of enthusiasm.

I said the factory workers were out. I should have said—some of them, for the permanent hands are keeping the dear bosses' shows working.

One evening last week some of us went out to interview the scabs coming from work. They told us that the union officials told them they should keep at work, as this was not an A.W.U. strike. But the lads were not for accepting the excuse, and the ground being muddy after the rain, several of these union scabs were given a mud bath. I can now recommend a mud bath as a cure for scab itch. The factory closed down next day from lack of slaves.

Last Saturday night, 31st ultimo, we held another meeting and appealed for funds to support the wives and kiddies of our jailed comrades. Owing to various counter attractions, such as a boxing contest, pictures, etc., our crowd was small; and as no D.A.'s came to hand we had no literature to offer them.

However, after P.W.'s Gower and O'Connor had reviewed the trial and pointed out the danger to the workers of allowing these 12 men to rot in jail, a collection amounting to 25s was taken up.

This will be the last meeting here this season, many of the boys having already left, and most of the others leaving to-morrow. However, I have been promised a few more shillings through the week and when the "D.A.'s" turn up, I hope to dispose of them, and add that amount to the fund for the support of our boys' dependents.

We trust that next year you will see more of those I.W.W. pests here, even if their coming does anger the A.W.U. official Mr. Blocks.

Mildura is good ground, fellow-workers. Come and help plough it next year.

Hoping to meet you here,
Yours for the I.W.W.,

TOM O'CONNOR.

No mind acts in a void. Stop the sources of information, doctor the news forbid public discussion, confiscate books and pamphlets, fine and imprison those who circulate them, and you cripple the human mind and disable it from acting freely. You do take my thought when you take away the means by which I think.

J. A. HOBSON.

MAY DAY ISSUE.

We have a slight alteration in the details of the May Day "Direct Action." The size will be eight ordinary pages, with a two-color front page, and the price will be TWOPENCE, or 1/6 a doz'n. Shoot in the orders, as we have to get rid of 10,000. And we can do it easily, you bet your life.

T. BARKER, Manager.
N. RANCIE, Editor.

Direct Action



WEEKLY
OFFICIAL ORGAN
of the
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF
THE WORLD.

(Australian Administration)
Office: 495 Sussex Street, Sydney,
Australia.

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

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

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS: 403 W.
Washington Street, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION WINS.

The smouldering fires of revolution can now be seen in almost every country in the world. The echoes of revolt are to be heard from all corners of the globe. The slaves are beginning to chafe under the chains of slavery and oppression, and are launching out in an effort to be FREE. International Capitalism has had a good run, and has boldly marched along its triumphant way at the expense, sorrow and suffering of the working class. But things are beginning to change. Transformations are taking place in all lands, and the thunder of Revolution can be heard in more countries than one.

The great European war, although terrible and awful in many ways, it nevertheless, has TAUGHT THE WORKING-CLASS SOME VERY VALUABLE LESSONS. "Out of evil cometh good," and out of the present war, we hope good will result.

The Hunnish atrocities and barbarous cruelties perpetrated by the hands of hell in their invasion of Belgium, has shown the working-class what could happen under a military despotism. When the German hordes started upon their triumphant march of imperialism through Belgium and into France, it let the workers know what was possible if they were not organised.

During the last couple of years, the toilers have had many illustrations of what can happen in unorganised countries. They also have had an insight into the power and might of organised labor.

In the greatest military and autocratic countries in the world, the ORGANISED POWER OF THE WORKING CLASS HAS BEEN ABLE TO RISE SUPERIOR TO THEIR ARMIES AND NAVIES.

In Germany, on several occasions, the industrial army of the workers has DEFEATED the cohorts of the Kaiser, and won out. In Russia, Organized Labor has marched triumphantly over the pastures of autocracy, and is now breathing the free air of democracy.

Owing to the long hours, the poverty of food, and the desperate conditions, the war has forced the German people into many large strikes, food riots and hunger demonstrations have taken place. It is reported that strikes arose of comparative occurrence in and around Russia, ending in the capture and mutilation of German soldiers. A few weeks ago we read of strikes at Dresden, Leipzig, and other large towns, and that riots were prevalent everywhere.

The PARLIAMENTARY POWER OF THE WORKERS OF Germany, are beginning to realise that their "law-makers" in Parliament have not been so often.

All the noise and bombast which in the Reichstag will not stop the Kaiser or stop the war. But the INDUSTRIAL ORGANISED WORKERS ARE ALL POWERFUL, and can not only stop the war, but halt the Kaiser and his minions into the redemptive pit of hell. Let us hope it will not be long before the German workers realise their industrial power and get busy.

Austria, it is said, has also experienced some big industrial disturbances. Discon-

tent is rife, and the army officers are meeting with great difficulties.

Even in degenerated Turkey, the people are RISING AGAINST THE RULING POWERS, and are struggling to be free. In a spontaneous outburst against Prussianism, which happened a few months ago, the Turks got a glimpse of the power they hold in their own hands if only it was organised.

The capitalist press has reported that a revolution has taken place in Finland. At Helsinki, the soldiers fought the police and Government agents, and all work and traffic was stopped. The Finnish soldiers walked through the streets offering red flags to the officers and those who refused them were shot. The report states that fourteen officers were killed, and the rebels have arrested the Governor and the military commander at Viborg.

Even in far away Finland, the workers have discovered the POWER OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION, and they are showing the world what can be done.

A few years ago, the Russian rebels were successful in referring many of their representatives to the Duma, but they were very short lived. When the Czar saw how things had gone, he immediately disbanded the Duma and his secret police and agents did the rest. This lesson in parliamentary methods was not forgotten, and the Russian workers have since been organising outside of Parliament, and they have fairly shown the world what can be done.

The Russian revolution started in the industrial centres far away from the influence of Parliament, and its leaders were men who had not been corrupted by the parliamentary environment.

Spain has lately been the centre of a general strike, and very likely at this present moment the place of industrial upheaval. The people in Poland are in revolt. The workers of America are engaged in several big strikes. In England strikes are not unknown, and industrial trouble is still in the air. In New Zealand the coal miners have left the pits and the water fronts are idle.

The whole world seems to be in revolt. Allied, enemy, and neutral countries are all experiencing the same trouble. Red flags float freely in the breeze in more countries than one, and the voice of discontent is heard in all lands.

It behoves the working class of Australia to take a lesson from the workers over the sea, and set about perfecting their industrial organisation that they may be ready to ward off any impending danger.

The politicians in Australia, like the politicians in other lands, have SOLD AND DESERTED THE WORKING CLASS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. There is no hope in Parliament. The game is played out for the workers. But we still have great hopes. THE INDUSTRIAL UNION HAS NOT FAILED US. Let us link up our scattered army into the One Big Union of the working class. It is our only hope. It is the only way out. INDUSTRIAL SOLIDARITY IS ALL POWERFUL. It can triumph over all. It is the weapon that will finally bring about the day of "peace on earth and goodwill to all men."

N.R.

WHARF LABOURERS FINED FOR STRIKING.

Fourteen members of the Wharf Labourers' Union had to appear before the Industrial Arbitration Court last week to answer the charge that they had refused to work.

It was stated that they were engaged on March 21st to discharge coal. After working for a few minutes they required that they were being paid to unload coal. When informed that the rate was 1/6 per hour, the wharfies refused to continue unless they were paid 2/ an hour. After holding operations up for 20 minutes the shipping company relaxed and gave the 2/ an hour, whereat work was again resumed.

For having the audacity to demand more pay the strikers were proceeded against according to law. His Honor, Mr. Justice Heydon, offered some good advice, and said he did not see how intelligent men could have come to the conclusion they did. A common understanding could have been brought about with out any word being spoken.

After handing out a lot of cheap advice, His Honor held that there had been a strike, and fined each man £4. To strike now is illegal. The way the laws are put out in Australia makes all the sacred liberties of the working class illegal. It will not be long, if this pace keeps up, when it will be illegal to eat.

For What Do We Stand?

Someone has said that there are none so blind as they who will not see, and the point of this remark becomes very evident when those who understand that for which the I.W.W. stands, read the columns of the capitalistic press, and listen to the jeers, accusations and description of the individuals, who without doubt, know better than what they say. And yet, if one depended on these sources for his enlightenment as to who composed the I.W.W., and what was their justification for existence as such, a very brutal and inhuman gang of cut-throats would be depicted with no other object in life than to crush all human progress, and throw back the entire race to the jungle, where primordial claws and fangs play the part that the minions of law play in our present day civilisation.

This article is no apology for the I.W.W. raising its head, but is intended and designed to explain the reason why.

It would appear to those who depend on the capitalistic press for their knowledge of the origin and history of the I.W.W., that this movement was hatched amidst the fire and brimstone of some subterranean passage of the Christian hell by Old Nick; and that ever since it has depended exclusively on the criminal and brutal members of society to propagate its gospel of revolt, but truth to tell this movement lays no claim to be of divine origin nor yet hell bred. On the contrary it is claimed for the I.W.W. that it is a bona-fide working-class organisation and its existence was brought about as the result of economic evolution, and none but the very stupid or the shamelessly dishonest will deny this fact.

In order to substitute this claim it will perhaps be as well to give a brief summary of the events that led up to the launching of the I.W.W.

During the year 1904, six active workers in the revolutionary labour movement in America assembled in conference to discuss prospects of working-class unionism in view of the rapid developments that had taken place in American capitalism, and these men in conference assembled came to the conclusion that the form of craft unionism then existing was totally inadequate to even maintain, much less improve the worker's status in society; and consequently a further conference was called to take place in January, 1905, to which the various labour organisations were invited to send delegates. The "criminal" character of that conference can be judged from these extracts from a manifesto that was drawn up at the conference.

"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..... These sad conditions can be changed and

the interests of the working-class upheld only by an organisation formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries, if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lock-out is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all."

A perfectly correct statement and justified course of action from a working-class viewpoint, and the movement for more efficient organisation, made great progress.

The second convention which was held in 1906, had the same working-class complexion as its predecessor. It was not a conspiracy of damned souls nor degenerate criminals, but the convention of delegates from the various unions and labour organisations in America. A third and fourth convention were held, and it was at the fourth convention that the I.W.W. preamble as it reads to-day was endorsed.

This briefly is the history of the formation of the I.W.W. since those days the movement spread until it is now international not merely in aspirations, but in fact. This is the organisation that has been dubbed "criminal" by the emissaries and mental prostitutes of capitalism; and if it be criminal for the workers to organise their forces as units in the army of production for the purpose of overthrowing capitalism, and in the intervening time between the social revolution by which this shall be accomplished to organise the army of production to carry on the industries when capitalism shall have been overthrown then there is no doubt that the I.W.W. is a criminal organisation, and the epithet does us no harm.

But in spite of the calumny, dishonesty, and cruelty to those whose interests it is that the I.W.W. should be strangled, this movement is destined to become a most virile and expansive force. Such a consummation has been predetermined by the capitalistic development. The movement does not depend for its substance on the whims and desires of any coterie of individuals, but is an unkillable effect of the operation of economic evolution. The One Big Union is that for which the I.W.W. strives, because the One Big Union points the way to working-class liberation from wage-slavery.

A world regeneration is the object of those men and women who enlist under the banner of the One Big Union. Not a world with the piteous sight of haughty affluence existing in same streets as vindictive poverty, but a world with an enlightened people, each and all deriving the benefits of the inventive genius of the mechanic, and enjoying the creations of those artistic bent. A people with free access to the bounteous gifts of nature, well-fed, well-housed and well clothed, and freed from the cruel horrors of war by an international spirit of fraternity which, with the passing of capitalism, will be possible of realization.

BERT DAVIES.

Anti-Strike Legislation Criticised.

Editor O'Neill, of the Trinidad Free Press, hits the nail on the shoulder in discussing legislation intended to prohibit strikes. Newspapers have charged President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, with using the term "involuntary servitude," in his opposition to this legislation, for the effect its meaning will convey to the minds of men and women to whom slavery is repulsive.

To these newspapers Editor O'Neill says:—"With all the cunning genius and fallacious sophistry utilized by the scribbling defenders of compulsory arbitration, the fact cannot be hidden that workers who are compelled by law to submit their case to an investigation conducted by a board of arbitration, are they can use the weapons of resistance against the economic czar, are slaves, and no juggling of words in clouding the issue can remove the fact that the man, who is compelled by law to remain at work against his will is nothing more or less than a victim of involuntary servitude."

Mr. Gompers, as well as other officials of the labor movement, together with scores of labor editors, have stripped compulsory arbitration to its nakedness and demonstrated by unanswerable argument and logic to the laboring millions of this country that any law that wrests the strike from the hands of the worker leaves labor not only bereft of its most powerful weapon, but places capital in a fortress that is practically impregnable, so far as organized labor is concerned.

The labor union, robbed of its most powerful weapon, to combat the oppression of a master class, has but little reason for existence, for if labor must succumb to laws that are but chains and shackles to hold labor in subjection, then the right of labor to organize has but an empty sound and has little meaning to the man or woman whose spirit rebels against the wrongs of exploitation."

Coombs' Case.

W. H. Coombs, who was arrested in Broken Hill on a charge of inciting to arson, and was dragged across to Albury to be tried where the jury disagreed is now to be given a trip to Goulburn, where he will stand his trial at the Quarter Sessions on June 5th.

In the event of the jury disagreeing at Goulburn, there is no doubt that our benevolent Government will give Coombs another trip around the country to some other cocky town where an endeavour will be made to dig out a Nationalist cocky jury where a conviction will be a certainty.

It makes some stiff curious when they see Coombs being shown around the country at the Government's expense, and others have to tramp out with their swags up.

Anyhow, before long, we hope to have Bill amongst us again carrying on the good work of Industrial Unionism.

OBITUARY.

Fellow worker J. Gill was sacrificed on the altar of dividends at Scarborough last week.

The working-place was short of timber, and, despite numerous requests from the miners for timber, it could not be got.

When Jack Gill walked into the working-place to inspect what had been done, away came the back and buried him. When rescued he was dead.

The mining company had wilfully broken the mining regulations in not supplying the necessary timber, and that was the direct cause of Jack Gill's death. Will any action be taken against the company, or will the old time word and lying statement be published "accidental death"?

Revolutionary Reflections.

There is no doubt that we are living in stirring times. One wonders at the apathy or ignorance of the man in the street.

Here in Australia the student of sociology are having the time of their lives, the different political manoeuvres will give them material for their studies for years to come.

In Europe we see the struggle between great commercial nations that will alter the whole economic superstructure of the world.

One of the great changes in effect is the Revolution in Russia. The capitalist press would have us believe that the upheaval was anti-German primarily. The press has told us the upheaval started with striking workmen crying for bread. The same thing happened in France in 1789, and if the workers of Russia are not awake to the lesson of history, the whole tragedy will be played over again.

The Revolution in Russia was started, giving full blast by the police, in using their old barbaric methods to squash the revolt they did not take into account the number of peasant soldiers that were in the city, and the slaughter of their late fellow-workers was too much for them, and they joined the revolt with the workers.

The politicians, recognising this fact, refused to obey the orders of the Czar to dissolve, and threw themselves into the hands of the strongest party, appointed a committee of public safety, caused the Czar to clear out, and arrested the members of his Government.

The capitalist press here has already got its venom ready for the Russian workers, if they mean to keep the red flag flying where they have planted it. And the same kind of vitriol their predecessors had for the French proletariat when they tried to plant that flag on French soil.

The liberties so dearly bought in the first stages of the French Revolution were lost sight of in the great wave of patriotism to drive the invaders from the borders. The same thing will blot out the liberties gained by the Russians unless they keep some of their powder dry for their enemies in their own country. A regenerated Russia should be quite capable of defending their liberties from attacks both from within and without.

With the liberties of speech and press, and the liberty to tell the exploiter to come through with the goods, or go to hell, ought to give Russian workers ample room for laying the foundations of industrial unionism, by cementing their liberties besides being an object lesson to the workers of other countries.

Anyone that don't get wise to those hypocritical dirty rags called daily papers don't deserve liberty.

A Nationalist member of the House of Commons said last week that "Britain was praising successful Revolutionaries and shooting unsuccessful ones." But he was wrong. The politicians and press of the whole capitalist world has no use for the revolutionaries of the working class. They, at the instigation of their boss, the capitalist, only use the workers as pawns in their fight with the landed aristocracy, to be sold, betrayed and abused directly the workers show any sign of sticking to the fruits of their victory.

If the Russian workingman will read the lesson of the Revolutionary ariah, he will find that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Beware of politicians or anyone who economise. Position is different from the proletariat. Clean up your own house before you start to clean up your neighbour's. Get industrial might and you will be victorious. Organised industrially, you will be able to run the show. Put your trust in politicians to run it for you, and you will be sold.

Only by organising industrially, can the workers get the right to get and keep liberties that they must have to secure their final emancipation.

The Russian and Australian workers with the rest of the workers of the world, must make an injury to one the concern of all. While one of its members remain in prison for speaking or writing what he thinks, it cannot be free.

Inolerance, right down through the ages has been the methods of those who wish to keep the people ignorant, and suppress those enlightened ones who wish the people to know the truth. So it's up to the workers of Australia to do a little thinking.

The capitalist press say it "was a good thing for the Russians to revolt, and thereby gain free speech and press, etc."

Despotism is despotism, whether it be Australian, English, Russian or German. So let the Australian workers give their Russian fellow-workers a hand to push it off the earth.

JAMES POPE.

DESPOTISM or DEMOCRACY

Scab Herding.

Firm Loses License.

STRIKE-BEARERS UNABLE TO COLLECT WAGES.

Pergoff Bros and Waddell, "labor adjusters," 120 Liberty Street, New York, are such no more. They're just an ordinary strike breaking agency. The state of New York has taken from them the license to operate as "private detectives" under which they masked their operations.

The Bergoffs and Waddell have become known for their part in furnishing strike-breakers and professional gangsters in strikes and threatened labor upheavals. The Colorado, West Virginia and Michigan mine strikes, the oil workers' upheaval in Bayonne, and the car strike in this city, all give testimony to the businesslike activities of these scab-herders.

On the complaint of two strike-breakers that the agency withheld their pay for car strike work, State Controller Eugene M. Travis late in September temporarily suspended the agency's detective license, made out in the name of Pearl L. Bergoff, senior member of the firm.

Controller Travis then ordered an examination of the company's books. Rather than submit to this scrutiny of their business methods the firm on October 2 voluntarily relinquished all title to the license, and since operated as a simple strike-breaking centre. The explanation given by the firm for refusal to permit examination of its books was that it didn't find the detective license of much value, anyway, and could get along without it. **PROUGHT HERE FOR CAR-STRIKE.**

The two strike-breakers who brought their complaint to Controller Travis' office in the Woolworth building, and whose names are withheld, were hired in the South, it was said yesterday in the controller's office, and brought here for car strike duty. The controller was unable to assist in the collection of the pay they said was due them, but took official recognition of the complaint, and several others which had also been received, by revoking the license.

The complaint by these strike-breakers recalls similar complaint made before the public service commission on September 11, by seven strike-breakers hired in Chicago by the Bergoff-Waddell agents. They came before the commissioner, begging for help in collecting wages. The attorney for the carmen's union testified that strike-breakers had complained of being beaten when trying to leave the car barns, armed Bergoff-Waddell guards refusing them permission to leave. **SEEK AID TO COLLECT PAY.**

Merton Wyatt, 505 Kane street, Chicago, and six other strike-breakers were found, wandering about the corridors outside the public service commission's rooms in the Equitable building, seeking some one who, they said, could help them get their pay from the agency.

In the course of his testimony before the commission, with Mayor Mitchell attending, Wyatt said he and 150 other Chicago men had been hired for duty here on the understanding that they were to receive 5 dollars a day. When he arrived here, he said, the party was met at the depot by a Pergoff agent and given 10 cents each, with instruction to go to the car barns. After a week the strike-breakers quit en masse, but on applying at the agency at 120 Liberty street, Wyatt swore, they were refused their money. On advice of a policeman, they hunted up the public service commission.

On Labor Day, Charles Foley, a strike-breaker hired by the agency at its Liberty Street office, was killed in the room during an altercation with officials of the company regarding wages which Foley said were due him. Dan Millrose, foreman of Bergoff-Waddell agency, was held without bail on Coroner L. Feinberg's order pending an inquiry into the murder of Foley. The outcome of the Coroner's inquest is not known.

DAILY STOP WORK MEETINGS. RAILWAY WORKERS' TROUBLES.

DARWIN, Thursday. A peculiar state of affairs exists at Darwin railway workshops, where for about ten days the fitters have held stop-work meetings. One hour's work in the morning is put in, and then the meeting lasts all day. Meanwhile the engines are going to pieces. There is not a sound engine on the road, and it is expected that unless the trouble is adjusted they must soon cease running. The fitters say the trouble is that the fitters at Vesey's works get 2s 8d an hour, whereas the Government will not give more than 2s 2d.

—Sun.

If I pray, the only prayer,
That moves my lips for me,
Is "Leave the heart that I now leave,
And give me Liberty!"
EMILY BRONTE.

Far back in human history are records of Labor's struggle "to get free!"

That desire is the parent of our Labor Unions through which the working and living conditions of the modern worker have been improved.

There was a time when we believed that all our effort was at last landing us in sight of victory, but the labor movement of some European countries is being so violently assailed that our hopes of grasping the prize of Liberty now seems much more remote.

Plainly, there is a determination on the part of the rulers of those countries to smash the labor movement and reinstate the "Good old Days" of a century ago.

Indeed, so apparent has this movement become, that even in Australia, the stupid man, the man who seldom does anything but work and obey, the man who would rather do anything in the world than think, is beginning to suspect that some sinister scheme lurks behind the vicious assaults now almost daily made upon the leading propagandists of the labor unions.

In Germany, in Austria, in Turkey, and in Bulgaria, War Precautions Acts are in active operation, directed pointedly at the heart of the working class movement. Under these acts the wretched workers are being forced back from the shadows of democracy and are being crunched under the heel of the despot.

Working class leaders are in those countries suffering long terms of imprisonment for alleged treason and alleged arson, etc., not, mind you, because they were found guilty of those crimes, but because, being advanced thinkers, incorruptible and able men they were deemed a danger to the safe enthronement of despotic rule.

Capitalism never will—in any country—stand by and see able men among the ranks of their opponents, and in Hun ruled lands able men are gaoled for being thinkers—who may be thinking about improving the conditions of the workers.

Despots will brook no critics. In Turkey a little while ago this fact was made very apparent when a man received a "stretch" for picturing by a newspaper cartoon an industrial oligarchy gathered about a buzzard feast of blood and brains.

How cleverly the industrial despots bamboozled the trusting worker! Do they arrest union leaders and propagandists and charge them with being a nuisance and a danger to capitalism and its intentions?

UP FROM YOUR KNEES!

(By R. H. Chaplin).

(Air: "Song of a Thousand Years").

Up from your knees, ye fawning serfmen—
What have ye gained by whines and tears?
Crush ye the Beast of greed and power—
Crush him or serve a thousand years.

CHORUS.

A thousand years—then speed the victory!
Nothing can stop us or dismay;
After the winter comes the springtime;
After the darkness comes the day.

Break ye your chains; strike off your fetters—
Beat them to shreds; forget your fears.
Fool! they can never break our spirits,
Though they should try a thousand years.

Join in the fight—the Final Battle;
Welcome the fray with ringing cheers.
These are the times all freemen dreamed of—
Fought to attain a thousand years.

Over the hills the sun is rising.
Out of the gloom the light appears.
See! at your feet the world is waiting—
Paid with blood a thousand years.

REFLECTIONS.

There may be no wrong in working like a mule if you kick like a mule; but there is a great deal of presumption in calling yourself a human being, when you are not treated like one.

If it is necessary to use both hands and feet when you work for the boss, why not use every extremity when you fight him?

You would not be much of a thinker if your brains were knocked out; therefore, think now and avoid the danger.

It seems absurd to wait until you are ratty broke before making a resolution to save your money; and just as absurd to see the injustice of this social system only when you are unemployed.

Live each day that you may look every politician in the eye, and tell him to go to work.

PETE.

"DIRECT ACTION."

English. Weekly. 4/ per year, 2/ per half year. 1d copy. 403 Sussex St., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

tions? Certainly not! If they did so the people would "tumble" to the joke and rise in protest. They charge their intended victims with some commonplace crime and the deluded workers leave the unfortunate one to his fate. How well capitalism in enemy Europe has gauged the psychology of the crowd!

The composition of the so-called courts of justice in those countries enables the most hideous "frame-ups" to be perpetrated upon innocent, but suspected because able, persons.

The working class of those nations are doped and helpless, they accept without protest and without a query the explanations of the rulers.

To us of the English speaking race the position of such people is monstrous, and yet we—reared in freedom—cannot fully grasp the real position. We have been so long enjoying the atmosphere of liberty that by no stretch of imagination can our mental pictures approach the reality.

Quite naturally we smile to think that those deluded people claim to be the most free in all the world. Surely they could never have heard of us and our freedom! What lies their cunning rulers have been telling them! But what can we do to enlighten them? They would not believe us were we to explain to them that they have been duped by their rulers, or that it was an undisputed fact that the British people were the freest in the world.

This false though satisfying belief keeps the working people of enemy Europe from revolting and overthrowing the ruling powers. At present they console themselves with the belief that although things may be bad in their own countries there is some satisfaction in knowing that conditions in other lands are worse! Thus have they been taught!

Yes, we may smile to think of their ignorance and simplicity, but that will not enlighten them! The Russian workers broke down the gaols, released their classmates, and imprisoned the real conspirators—the enemies of progress, the real enemies of the people. When will the workers of Germany, of Austria, of Turkey, and of Bulgaria do likewise?

The choice for the workers is now Despotism or Democracy; will they fall like cravens to the one, or rise and by their might proclaim the other?

A. MACK.

REV. F. SINCLAIR ON POLITICS.

Politics, indeed, are still left, and while they are left, most Australians will never miss the liberties that are being taken from them. "Panem et circenses," bread and games, is still the demand of the people and having received their prescribed ration of bread from the wage-boards, it is the function of politics to keep them amused and out of mischief, and at the same time to provide an outlet for their inane sallies of indignation. For the next few weeks we may expect, if possible, more politics than ever. But neither the present political situation nor the immediate prospect are goodly matters with which the heart overflows. Mr Hughes' pranks having become too broad, for even some of his own followers to bear with, we are to have a general election. This is the sort of thing our public likes better than lies. Witness the enthusiasm of the crowd which filled the Melbourne Town Hall, a few nights ago to listen to attacks on the Prime Minister and electioneering platitudes. The "Argus" described the speeches as a "Hymn of Hate." It is bad enough to have to admit the truth of this description. All of us, of course, like to hear the railing against dignities, and he would be a surly and inhuman philosopher who would suggest the entailment of this legitimate pleasure. But the "Argus" left the worst unsaid. There were two hymns sung at the meeting, one of hate, one of claptrap. It is the claptrap, and still more the applause it evokes, that enter like iron into the soul of those who are trying to keep their faith in democracy. What hope is there for community which not only tolerates, but actually applauds Dr. Maloney's platitudes about car blue-rites and our fair fame, or the suggestion made by other speakers that turn out Hughes party and elect Mr. Tudor, and his followers—a party without a policy—would be the death-blow of capitalist domination? A general election may bring us a Malenconum, but hardly a millennium. The Labour Caucus, when it has done abusing Mr. Hughes, is gravelled for lack of matter, and declines at once from its moral attitudes into sheer claptrap. We ask for light and leading in questions which vitally concern the future of this country, and we get a voluble sequence of evasive platitudes. The impression left by the Town Hall meeting was that the election would turn on comparative merits of Tweedledum and Tweedledee.—"Fellowshi"

THE I.W.W. IN AMERICA.

NORTH AMERICAN OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

February 19th, 1917.

A lease has been secured on the building, 1001 West Madison street, Chicago, Illinois. After the 1st of May, this will be the headquarters of the General Office, the I.W.W. Publishing Bureau and Solidarity. On account of moving, the Publishing Bureau was unable to print any literature. This work has been turned over to headquarters. 90,000 pamphlets are now on press. Standard pamphlets will be made uniform in size and price. We will be able to fill orders for any number on short notice.

Ralph H. Chaplin has turned over the entire edition of his new book of poems, "When the Leaves Come Out." Typographically, and from every point of make-up, from the remarkable cover design by Charles Winter to the last page, it is perfect. These poems speak for themselves. "The Rubaiyat of the Harvest Stiff" and others will be good reading in the coming evenings when the working days are shorter. 50 cents each, or 35 dols. per hundred.

Over 5000 sugar workers and 1500 longshoremen and seamen are on strike against the Sugar Trust Refineries in Philadelphia, New York, Yonkers, Brooklyn, and vicinity. The machinists of the Spreckels Refineries have lifted up in Sugar Workers' Industrial Union, 497, Engineers, Firemen, Oilers, Coopers, Sack-sewers, and other workers in the Spreckels plant have joined the ranks. Never before in this industry has such solidarity been shown. The strikers are standing firm. Their demands are 5 cents an hour increase, a 10-hour day, time and a half overtime, and double time for holidays and Sundays.

The last of January members of Pearl Button Makers' Industrial Union, 463, and its branches, went on strike, demanding a minimum wage of 16 dols a week for cutters; 13 dols. a week for finishers. This is a newly organized union, has a chance for job control over nearly the entire industry, in the Eastern States, and is entitled to your support. Funds for the strikers should be sent to John Becker, 490 E. 74th Street, New York.

Bakery Workers' Industrial Union, 46, has secured another raise of 2 dols. a week without a strike. The minimum wage among the Italian bakers of New York City is now: First bakers, 22 dols; second baker, 20 dols.; third baker, 18 dols; with many getting higher than the minimum wage.

Shoe Repairers' Union, 620, in Baltimore, has secured improved conditions, and reduced their hours of labor from twelve to nine.

Organisation work is going along in good shape. Several of the unions of the Marine Transport Workers on the Atlantic Coast have taken up branch charters in Marine Transport Workers' Industrial Union, 100. Many boats running between Boston, Massachusetts and Norfolk, Virginia, have complete I.W.W. crews from firemen to sailors. Splendid work will be done in this industry within the next few months.

Clarence Edwards, secretary-treasurer M.T.W., 200, reports activity on the Great Lakes. Several new members have been taken in at Toledo.

John Panener and Albert Pashner are on the job as organisers at Detroit, Michigan. We can expect a real growth in Metal and Machinery Workers' Industrial Union, 300.

Financial reports and bulletins of Agricultural Workers, 400, show that remarkable work has been done during the winter months. There will be a meeting of the Organisation Committee on February 28th, when plans and arrangements will be outlined for the big work expected this coming season.

The strike of the Lumber Workers of the North Woods has been called off. As a result of this strike, the workers prevented a reduction in wages, and increased their pay 5 dols a month. Hours are shorter, and food much better. Splendid work is being done in the woods of Idaho, Washington and Montana. It is expected that there will be an amalgamation of all Lumber Workers of the North and North-west at an early date, when a charter will be issued to Lumber Workers' Union, 500.

While waiting for the "Santa Claus" (Supreme Court) to hand them more pay in their envelopes, the Railroad Workers are awakening to the need of Industrial Unionism. One of them remarked the other day that for insurance they could go to the Brotherhoods, but for a shorter work day, would have to come to the I.W.W. Railroad Workers' Industrial Union, 600, is making steady progress.

The Marine Transport Workers' Unions of the Pacific Coast have lined up as branches of M.T.W., 700. Seattle, Tacoma, Portland and San Pedro have applied for branch charters. Temporary headquarters for No. 700 has been established at Room 78, Union Block, Seattle, Washington. Branches will soon be organized in every port along the Pacific Coast.

WATCH! Metal Mine Workers' Industrial Union, 800, grow! Grover H. Perry, secretary-treasurer, Box 10, Phoenix Arizona. All miners of the West are requested to write to Fellow Worker Perry, get credentials and supplies, and put the men who delve in the windowless palaces of the West again on the map, with a militant fighting organisation, such as they will be proud of, and the mining companies will respect. This union starts off on a splendid footing, with branches in Montana, Utah and Arizona. All we need to make it a wonderful success is delegates in every mine, every mill and every smelter throughout the West. Good reports are received from Alaska. With the opening of spring, great headway will be made in that territory.

Coal Mine Workers' Industrial Union 900, will have control over the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania. Ed. Rowan, secretary-treasurer, Scranton, Pennsylvania. The Coal Miners' Unions will transfer as branches, and good reports can be expected at an early date.

The time has arrived when the Textile and Clothing Industries must organise along the lines of Industrial Union with branches. The remarkable strikes that have taken place in the great wool and cotton centres of Massachusetts, and the silk industry of Paterson and other places, where the I.W.W. made a clean record, will re-act in building up a wonderful organisation in these industries, as soon as the union is started along the right lines.

CONVENTION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.

All Construction Workers are hereby notified that a Conference will be held Sunday morning, April 29th, 1917, 9 a.m., at Omaha, Nebraska. All Construction Workers' Unions are requested to send delegates, and members engaged in this industry are asked to attend the Conference. The purpose of this Convention will be to establish an Industrial Union with branches, working along the lines of other Industrial Unions now organized, to select a headquarters, elect a secretary-treasurer and an Organisation Committee, to establish a Central Office, with the uniform system of bookkeeping and the delegate system. All Construction Workers, members in good standing 60 days prior to date of Convention, will be entitled to seat, voice and vote.

FORREST EDWARDS, Sec. Protem.
Wm. D. HAYWOOD, Gen. Sec.-Treas.

A call has been issued for a conference of Marine Transport Workers, No. 1, New York City. As this Union is not in good standing at present, the call is unconstitutional, and therefore, is not recorded in the "Bulletin." However, a conference of Marine Transport Workers on the Atlantic Coast will be held in the near future, a place for headquarters selected, a permanent secretary-treasurer elected, as well as an Organisation Committee, to continue the work that has been so well started by Marine Transport Workers' Industrial Union, 100.

A legislative investigation of the Industrial Workers of the World has been in progress at St. Paul, Minnesota, for some weeks. Witnesses from both sides of the Iron Miners' Strike and the Lumber Workers' Strike were called to the chair. Witnesses for the I.W.W. gave a good account of themselves, and the cause they represent.

Various measures are pending enactment in the States of Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota, directed against the I.W.W. These bills are, in the main, for

The Bonehead.

He was such a foolish man.
Puffed up with stupid pride:
For others he ne'er cared a dam,
Unselfish efforts he'd deride.

He hated thoughts of unity,
And scorned all proffered aid,
He had his master's sympathy,
And so was not afraid.

A hollow praise rang in his ears,
His stomach bulged with food,
He classed the workers' inmost fears,
As base ingratitude.

A tale of misery,
He grew quite annoyed,
He never felt the sting, for he
Was never unemployed.

No Deilah could mar his charms,
So why need he despair?
His strength lay in his brawny arms,
And not within his hair.

He never dreamed that such as he
Would hug the long bread line,
No glimpse had he of poverty
While working overtime.

Conceited in his own high worth,
Content 'neath fortune's smile,
To think of trouble on this earth,
Was scarcely worth the while.

And so he toiled from day to day,
And laboured through the years,
The soothing balm of weekly pay
Banished haunting fears.

Through a mist the hand appears,
Of unrelenting fate:
That stilled the joy of former years,
And vigour of his prime.

Advanced age and troubles came,
The boss grew stern and cold;
His greetings now were scarce the same,
As in the days of old.

For yonder limbs still made the pace:
Speed the old ones lacked,
So 'neath the ban of deep disgrace,
The faithful slave was sacked.

Alone he stood, by mates despised,
Deserted by the boss:
The bitter truth he realised,
And mourned the heavy loss.

He'd worked for forty years or more,
A humble willing slave;
And his reward, now old and poor,
Was but a pauper's grave.

PETE.

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tered by bankers, lawyers, and members of the Commercial Club. The farmers, as a rule, do not favor these hostile laws, realising, as they do, that the I.W.W. will have a thousand mile picket line on the harvest from this coming season.

The Parliament of Australia has passed a law making the I.W.W. illegal until six months after the war is over. All literature has been confiscated, and the printing press seized.

The prisoners at Everett, Washington, have gained a point. A change of venue has been granted to King's County, and the trials will take place at Seattle. Judge Ronald has been appointed by the Governor to try these cases. Fellow Worker Thomas H. Tracy will be the first to come to trial.

An Eastern tour, commencing at an early date, will be arranged for Sam Scarlett, on behalf of the Everett prisoners. Dates will be assigned, and unions are requested to co-operate in making Fellow Worker Scarlett's trip a great success. He is a fine speaker, conversant with all the phases of Industrial Unionism, tells a remarkable story of the iron miners' strike, and is well acquainted with the details of the Everett massacre.

The good news has been received that Fellow Workers McNeely and Wetmore, who were horsed around for months by the authorities of North Dakota, have been finally acquitted.

With best wishes, I am

Yours for Industrial Freedom,

WM. D. HAYWOOD,
General Secretary-Treasurer I.W.W.

DEFENCE AND RELEASE COMMITTEE INCOME.

Carried forward	£	s	d
A Friend	1099	17	91
Mr. Tansley	0	2	0
Per F. W. Corless	0	2	0
G. Duggan	0	2	0
J. L. Collins	0	2	0
Per D. and R. Committee, Broken Hill	13	3	4
"Kitty"	0	6	2
J. Bartlett	0	2	0
Literature, Domain	2	2	3
Martin Jones	0	2	0
A. S. Petersen	1	0	0
Russian Association	0	13	2
Park Street Collection, 9/4/17	9	13	1
C. Russell, Literature	0	4	6

Total £1120 9 4
To April 10th, 1917.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "D.A."

TO APRIL 10th, 1917.

Mr. Blank, 1s; J. Cook, 1s; W. Giles, 1s; G. Perugini, 1s; Mr. Kael, 1s; Wm. Clerks, 1s; Miss Deverall, 1s; Miss Thornhill, 1s; C. Lee, 2s; J. Webster, 2s; J. L. Collins, 1s; E. Nelson, 2s; A. B. Willis, 2s; A. L. Parker, 2s; the Askew, 2s; S. Surtees, 2s; W. Thompson, 2s; R. McKenzie, 2s; L. J. O'Reilly, 1s; M. O'Donnell, 1s; W. Handley, 1s; Mrs. W. Bennett, 2s; M. Manning, 4s; B. Davey, 2s; E. Shaw, 2s; Miss Macnamara, 1s.

SYDNEY LOCAL

No. 2.

403 SUSSEX STREET, CITY.

ACTIVITIES.

TUESDAY, 9 p.m.—SPEAKERS' CLASS.
WEDNESDAY, 8 p.m.—ECONOMIC CLASS.
THURSDAY, 8 p.m.—BUSINESS MEETING.
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY—PROPAGANDA MEETINGS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF CITY.

SUNDAY, 3 p.m.—PROPAGANDA MEETING IN DOMAIN.

SUNDAY, 7 p.m.—PROPAGANDA MEETINGS BATHURST STREET AND OTHER PARTS OF THE CITY.

SUNDAY, 8 p.m.—LECTURE IN HALL. BEST WORKING-CLASS LIBRARY IN SYDNEY.

ALL SLAVES WELCOME.

BOSS NOT ADMITTED.

TOM BARKER.

Sec.-Treas.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.

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

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

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

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

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

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

EUCHRE PARTY AND DANCE.

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Tickets a bob. Roll up and bring your girl.

MISS SACHS, Treasurer.

MRS. WATERHOUSE, Sec.

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