

"An Injury to One an Injury to All."



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Release Agitation.

ADELAIDE.

Steady progress continues to be the order of things here. The agitation on behalf of our imprisoned fellow-workers is being carried on vigorously to ever-growing audiences. Keen interest is being manifested in the "evidence" upon which our stalwarts were convicted—the truth is gradually breaking its way through the thick incrustations of lies, ignorance and prejudice, and ere long will sweep away the capitalistic cobwebs from the minds of the toilers. Literature is booming; the sales of "D.A." have increased to 12 dozen weekly; while pamphlets and leaflets dealing with the Sydney trials are eagerly snapped up. During the last couple of weeks we have opened up another meeting—this time at Port Adelaide—on Saturday evenings, now making a total of four meetings per week, with more to follow.

We have had with us last week our grand old fellow-workers of the Eureka Stockade, Monty Miller, who stopped here for a few days on his way through to Broken Hill. Although 85 years of age, he looks about 20 years younger, and has a splendid spirit, wonderful vitality, and energy that would put to shame many a younger man. While here, he addressed several meetings for us, all of which were most successful. In the Botanic Park on Sunday afternoon, he held the close attention of a big crowd for an hour and a half, on the case for our boys, an amount of 32s being collected for the defence fund. In the evening he spoke again on "The Futurity of Politics," and in his remorselessly logical manner, proved his contention that the working-class can never gain their freedom by political action, and that the only possible hope for their emancipation is by means of the "One Big Union." He was cheered again and again at the close of his address. On Monday night last 30 or 40 boys and girls of the rebel clan assembled at a farewell social to our old warrior, to cheer him on his way. "Wobbly" songs made the rafters ring, while the needs of the inner man were well attended to. It was a great success from every point of view, the financial included. On Tuesday some of the boys went to the station to say farewell to and clasp the hand of our battle-scarred old warrior, fearless and true as steel, who, for 62 long and weary years has been a faithful fighter in the only cause worth fighting for—the cause of working-class emancipation. His name and his work will be enshrined in the heart of the working-class—remembered and respected when his persecutors and detractors have crumbled into dust, unknown and forgotten. May he be long amongst us to keep his honored place as a fighter for fellowship, fraternity and freedom!

Yours for Industrial Freedom,
BERT WALL, Secretary.

SYDNEY.

Activities in Sydney are going on apace. All propaganda meetings are well attended, and the audience generally sympathetic and attentive.

Domain meetings are still as large and enthusiastic as ever, and last Sunday Fellow-Worker Laidler, from Melbourne, and George Kerr, from Broken Hill, interested the crowd about things worth knowing.

In the evening meetings were held at Park street and Bathurst street until 8 o'clock, when the crowd marched down to the "wobblies" hall, singing the songs of the working class.

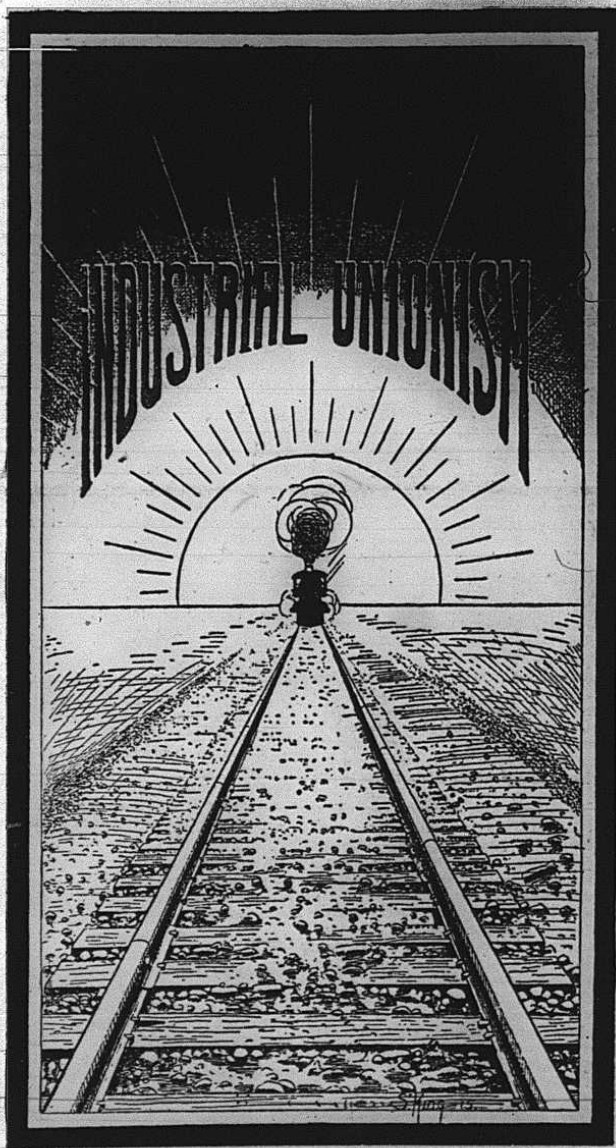
At a few minutes past eight, and delivered an interesting address on "War and the Workers."

Our hall, which seats about 500, is much too small to hold the crowd, which rolls up to our Sunday night lectures, and very often overflow meetings are held outside in Sussex street.

Sure, the I.W.W. is here to stay.

Willie: What are captains of industry, Dad?
Dad: They are fellows who cause wars, but never fight them.

Clear the Track.



THE RIGHT OF WAY.

CAIRNS, N.Q.

Fellow worker P. Petroff, says in a letter.—The members of Russian Local No. 12, realising the importance of the revolution in Russia, are returning to their native country at the first opportunity. There are always possibilities of a counter-revolution; and consequently all the forces of the progressive movement, must be in the country to counteract the attempts of the reactionaries. We intend to take all I.W.W. literature, buttons, and supplies with us to help in the establishment of the Industrial Workers of the World in Russia.

The Russian local held a very successful meeting in Cairns, on Monday, 16th. April. We had large red flags, on which was inscribed in English, "Long live the Russian Revolution," and "Long live Socialism." We had also several smaller banners with appropriate

wordings. It was a very successful demonstration and was attended by several thousands of people, who were much interested. Two of our speakers spoke in English and explained to the audience the causes and phases of the recent revolution. Fellow-worker Ivanoff pointed out, why we intended to return to Russia, and that we were not going "back to continue the war of the imperialists, but the war of the workers against economic slavery imposed by the capitalistic masters. Also that we would continue the fight for Industrial Unionism in Russia, in the same manner as we have in Australia.

We are forwarding £7 for the Press Fund, and pledge ourselves to help you to fight our enemies, and to carry on an effective propaganda for the release of our comrade Joe Fagan, and the other fellow workers now in gaol. With best wishes to all in Sydney.

Defence Agitation.

BROKEN HILL.

Monty Miller has arrived from the West. He is to deliver a series of lectures here, and endeavor to instill logic into the minds of the Barrier workers. A full report of his doings is promised to readers next week.

The local is sound as regards finance and numbers. Activities are still in evidence and a good militant spirit pervading the organisation. Sunday lectures listened to by a packed hall. These lectures are brightened up considerably by musical items, recitations, etc. Everybody joins in the singing, and a very enjoyable and educational evening is spent.

The writer lectured last Sunday evening on "Capitalism, Its Cause, Curse and Cure." Intelligent questions were asked at the close, and a good discussion followed.

Our Russian comrades have formed a choir, and they assist greatly in both the indoor and outdoor meetings. Wobblies singing mostly is not all that it might be, but our comrades' choir leaves very little to improve upon. The Russian Fellow-Workers are an integral part of the local.

F. W. Flynn has gone to gaol for three months for assaulting a "Blue-Whisker." "Bull" Jewell and Jimmy Oates have also gone along for two months on a similar charge. These two latter are not I.W.W. members, but are, nevertheless, good rebels. Oates is the secretary of the local Defence Committee. It is rather galling to be gaoled because of scabs.

Readers are promised a lengthy report next issue, which will be as interesting as can be written by—

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

PORT PIRIE, S.A.

Fellow-workers, send along two dozen May-day numbers, and a dozen per week in future, as we intend waking the Port Pirie boneheads out of their trance. This town is the slowest labour centre in Australia, so if you know any wobbly speakers coming this way, let us know. Wages are eleven bob a day, and work is plentiful.

I hope by the time I send in the next report that we will have a full down Release and Defence Committee in full swing.—Yours for Solidarity,

R. S.

MOUNT MORGAN, Q.

I suppose you know that there is a strike on here over the non-union question. A few are scabbing with union tickets, of course. The engine-drivers are still working, but that is to be expected of such highly-skilled aristocratic, company-loving slaves. The men are very solid, so far. A compulsory conference was held in Brisbane on Friday last, but it proved abortive. I expect the court will order the men back, and it should prove conclusively to the workers what these industrial courts stand for.

The wobblies are getting very strong here. The men are taking a ballot on the abolition of contract-system. The boys on the Mount carried it by a majority of 30, but there are still returns to come from Many Peaks and Iron Island. Many Peaks will be a moral to carry it.

There is a good feeling of solidarity here that will be licked into something effective in a little while.

H. C.

And we'll march with the Red Flag ahead,
For the blood of all nations is red;
Come join in the fray,
Come help us to-day,
We are fighting for freedom and bread.

Workers, do you subscribe to your paper? DIRECT ACTION pleads your case. It is the fearless advocate of the slave-class. It voices the claims of the awakening working-class. How about two bob for six months' subscription? You'll not be sorry.

Direct Action



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The I.W.W. and Violence.

The putrid journals of bossdom become very violent at times, and accuse the I.W.W. of advocating methods of violence. Trade union officials, when speaking of the I.W.W., have mouthed the same "arguments" as the conscriptionists and the avowed enemies of Labor.

We never expect fair play, reason, or justice from the master class, and we are not surprised at anything they might say or do. But the working man who brays about the I.W.W. preaching violence, only exposes his own ignorance, and proves to all that he knows nothing about the organisation he tries to criticise.

A study of the I.W.W. constitution and structure will prove that we are organising the working class on lines that do not call for violence, and when the I.W.W. plan of organisation is accomplished, even the violent attacks of the thugs, pimps and police can be frustrated. The I.W.W. is organising to prevent violence.

We claim, as an organisation, to have progressed beyond that stage when open violence was necessary to win reforms. Such tactics to-day would prove a failure and the working class get the worst of the deal.

A working class organisation which depends upon the use of violence for the furthering of its objects is unscientific, antiquated and dangerous.

Whenever the working class, of modern times, has resorted to the use of violent measures to gain reforms, the force has generally rebounded with disastrous results to the toilers.

In the past, acts of violence have been committed in which I.W.W. men have been connected, but our members have always acted in self defence.

All the acts of violence in which the I.W.W. has been mixed up, have always been started by the agents of the master class in an attempt to beat up our members, and smash our organisation. In all such violent outbreaks, the I.W.W. men have always acted on the defensive.

While we are organising along lines that will make violence between the master and slave impossible, we, at the same time, under present conditions, do not believe in the doctrine of "turn the other cheek," but certainly believe in defending ourselves against the Prussian, the bully, and the tyrant no matter where it may be.

The real believers in violence, and the men who preach and practise it, are the members of the master class. They have always, at all times, been ready to resort to all sorts of violence in their endeavour to hold the working class in subjection and exploit it to the last drop of blood. Every day that passes over our heads records fresh acts of violence perpetrated by the master class. In the mines, mills, factories and workshops, human lives are sacrificed every day owing to the violence of the employers. The victims of capitalist oppression and force are innumerable. Despite all the atrocities committed by the international capitalist class, we still say that the working class has no need to adopt violence in gaining reforms. The master class has the Might; it has

the Power; it has the armed forces of law and authority to support it. It would be madness to think that the working class could do battle with the forces of capitalism and win out.

In the battles between the master and slave of modern times, the barricade and the rifle as arguments are doomed to fail. Far mightier than the might of the master class, with all their machinery of oppression, is the power the working class possess in Industrial Organisation. Better far than the bomb and the bullet, is the war of the folded arms. In this battle no life need be lost, no blood need be spilt. The power of One Big Union of the working class can stop all capitalist violence and bring the captains of industry to their knees.

The continual attacks made by the master class upon working class unions plainly proves the power Industrial Unionism has. The violent measures resorted to by the cohorts of Capitalism to try and smash the I.W.W. demonstrates the soundness of our position, and what we are capable of accomplishing when once organised.

The employing class would far sooner see a thousand violent outbreaks by the workers than see them quietly settle down to organise themselves industrially into One Big Union.

The masters know the Organised Labor with modern methods is all powerful. They know that once the toilers awake to the power they possess through Industrial Solidarity that their devices and schemes will be of no avail, hence, their brutal attack upon industrial propagandists.

The working class must keep their heads for thinking, and not expose them as targets for the thugs of capitalism.

The I.W.W. is the most scientific and up-to-date working class organisation. Join it, and fight for it, and help to speed the day when all violence will be past and over, and the workers will receive the full product of their toil in an Industrial Republic.

How Child Labor Developed.

Children have been closely identified with the industries of the world ever since there has been any sort of manufacturing. In the early stages of man's development the children of savage tribes had their full share in cultivating the fields, hunting, fishing and trapping animals and in making baskets, rugs and articles of clothing. Later on, when tribes and clans separated into families, and every thing consumed was still made at home, the children assisted their parents in building the house, caring for the crops and animals, preparing meals and making clothing. The guild system, which was the next development, was pre-eminently child-employing, because apprenticeship was its basic factor, and very young boys were indentured to learn trades, while a little later, and for a long while after the guild system had died out, little girls were bound out to domestic service. Under this system the old self-sufficing homes gradually disappeared, and families began to specialise in one industry or another. In the next development, known as the domestic system, the raw material for a particular industry was furnished by a capitalist to several families to be made into finished products in their homes, and the child again was an important member of the labor force, helping in a textile industry, for instance, in carding wool, spinning, weaving, sewing, etc. But with the invention of machinery came the factory system, which absorbed everything else, and the employment of very young children was transferred from the home to the factories as a matter of course. Many unfortunate were even taken from the workhouses and given a chance to "earn something for themselves" in the most degrading slavery ever invented. They were crowded into barracks unfit even for animals, forced to work at all hours of the day or night, fed on starvation rations, paid a miserable pittance, and given no opportunity for education at all.—National Child Labor Committee.

Don't forget that shorter hours and longer pay always go together.

One Big Union of the working-class means that the boss will have to go to work.

The politicians are talking about a tax on cats. We wonder if they can tax OUR cat.

The Brotherhood of Man cannot be brought about by mercenary politicians; the workers alone can do it. Organise industrially, and put the parasites to work.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM.

THE COMING POWER.

In looking over the industrial field, the observer is struck by the large number of small, petty strikes that are continually taking place in all parts of the country. Sporadic outbreaks are the order of the day in all trades and industries. One section of the workers come out, struggle feebly in a futile attempt to defeat a united employing-class, and go back generally in defeat, or, at best, after a compromise, to be followed by another section with the same result. And so it goes on, a pitiful story of division and disorganisation.

These sectional strikes display not only a lack of organisation, but also ignorance of that basic fact which, and must, be the foundation of any working class organisation if it is to cope successfully with present-day conditions. That is the class-war.

To the revolutionist the class-war is a reality. It presents itself as that constant struggle, the result of opposing interests, between the two classes of society which finds expression in the strikes and lock-outs, the jailing of agitators and the brutal attempts of the master-class to suppress militant unionism.

The development of capitalism itself has drawn the class lines more distinctly. Previously, in the early stages of this system, when it was possible for the worker, by hard work and thrift, to save a little money and become an employer himself, when each factory employed only a few workers, and the degrees of exploitation and robbery was not so great, the gulf which separated the two classes was not as wide, nor was the revolutionary movement so clear-cut and class-conscious as it is now.

But the machine made its appearance in the industrial arena. The skill which had been the protection and strength of the tradesman began to disappear, until now it is almost a thing of the past. A necessary condition of the new form of production was the gathering together of a large number of workers, of widely different trades, in the one factory or workshop, where each, instead of as before, producing a commodity right from the raw material to the finished product, performed only a small part in the labor-process. A commodity could no longer be considered as the product of the labor of any one individual. It has to pass through the hands of many workers, each co-operating with the other, and adding his quota of labor, before it reaches completion.

This revolution in industry, which took place during the nineteenth century, rendered obsolete the form of unionism which had, till then, functioned successfully. Trade unionism, based upon skill, was not in line with the new conditions. With the centralising of a large body of workers into one factory, craft unionism became disunion, because those workers, being the slaves of the same capitalist and of the same class, should have been organised together, instead of which they are divided into probably a dozen or more separate trade unions, each with its own narrow craft interests, and without regard to the interests of the working-class as a whole.

In accordance with these changed conditions there came into existence a form of organisation known as industrial unionism—union by industry, instead of by trade.

In the first place, if we are to build up an organisation capable of withstanding the savage attacks which it was inevitable that the master-class should make upon it, and if we are to wage successfully the fight for industrial emancipation, education is very necessary. In order to carry out this educational propaganda work, the recruiting union, or mixed local, is provided. Its purpose is to spread the knowledge of industrial unionism, per medium of speakers and literature, as much as possible. It acts as a feeder to the industrial unions. Members of a recruiting union may be working in any industry in which an industrial union has not yet been formed in that locality.

The industrial union is composed of all workers engaged in the same industry, in the

same locality or district. The term "industry" implies a recognition of the fundamental change in the mode of production which the invention of the machine brought into being. By "trade" or "craft" is meant only one stage of the manufacture of a commodity, but "industry" covers every phase in the production of that commodity.

Then the industrial union combines all the workers employed in the same factory, work shop, mine, etc., no matter what labor they may be doing. Electricians, engineers, firemen, carters, clerks, are all united with the workers who do the actual producing.

For the purpose of adjusting job conditions, wherever necessary, the industrial union is branched into shop or job branches. The branch deals only with the affairs in the shop or factory, where it exists; matters which are peculiar to that job.

It is not a division of the industrial union, but is an integral part of it, being only for more effectively and speedily dealing with conditions as they arise on the job. All branches of an industrial union have representation on a central committee, which covers the whole industry in that locality.

The next step is the industrial district council, which comprises all industrial unions in the same district. It is formed of delegates from the industrial unions, and maintains solidarity in that district. The point that must be borne in mind is that the I.W.W. is controlled from the bottom upwards, the officials have no arbitrary power in the administration of the organisation. Any laws or rules that may be adopted, become legal only when ratified by a referendum vote of the entire membership. This is ensured freedom from that bureaucratic influence which has retarded and stultified the trade union movement.

Modern industry is not confined to one district or even country, but spreads octopus-like all over the world. Consequently, the industrial union on its own would be unable to struggle with any degree of success against the powerfully organised capitalist class. To meet this difficulty, the I.W.W. constitution provides for the grouping together into industrial departments of all the industrial unions in the same or closely allied industries. These industrial departments are six in number, namely, mining, land, water, and fishery products, transportation and communication, construction, public service, and general production. The industrial union embraces every worker in that department irrespective of craft, color or sex.

The I.W.W. does not stop even there. Complete though the foregoing plan of organisation may be in some respects, it still falls to meet the requirements of a highly centralised industrial system. The next step is the linking together of the industrial department to form the general administration, thus completing the structure of an organisation wide enough to admit every wage-worker in the land, and yet narrow enough to exclude all exploiters and parasites.

In many of those upheavals which have dislocated industry, the capitalists in their efforts to break the strike, have used the workers of other countries to scab upon their striking fellow-workers. This was done during the big strikes in New Zealand a few years ago, and on numerous other occasions. Foreseeing this contingency, the I.W.W. seeks to organise under its banner the workers of all the world, well knowing that it is only by an international organisation that the proletariat can ever achieve their economic freedom.

Realising that capitalist society, consists of only two classes, one living upon the toil and misery of the other, the I.W.W. declares that the "working-class and the employing class have nothing in common." As there is only one working-class, there can logically be only one union of the working-class.

By organising industrially into one big union of all workers, regardless of sex, creed, or color, we will be able to attain that solidarity which alone can abolish wage-slavery and usher in the new society.

FRANK CALLANAN.

The Cry of Toil.

By Rudyard Kipling.

We have fed you all for a thousand years,
And you hail us still unfed,
Though there's never a dollar of all your wealth,
But mark the workers' dead,
We have yielded our best to give you rest,
And you live on a crimson web;
For, if blood be the price of your wealth,
Good God! we ha' paid it in full.

There's never a mine blown skyward now,
But we've buried alive for you;

There's never a wreck drifts shoreward now
But we are its ghastly crew,
Go reckon our dead by the forges red,
And the factories where we spin;
If blood be the price of your accurate wealth,
Good God! we ha' paid it in full.

We have fed you all for a thousand years,
For that was our doom, you know,
From the days when you chained us in your fields,
To the strike of a week ago,
You ha' eaten our lives and our babes and wives,
And we're told it's your legal share,
But if blood be the price of your lawful wealth,
Good God! we ha' bought it fair.

The Case of Harry Melrose.

Harry Melrose, member of the A.M.A. and on A.M.A. business, has been gaoled for six months as a member of an illegal association, to wit, the I.W.W.

The Unlawful Associations Act governed the case, the I.W.W. under this measure having been declared an unlawful association for the period of the war and six months after.

If the I.W.W. be an "unlawful" association, why is it permitted to remain an association? Why has it not been declared disbanded by proclamation?

But it seems that would not suit the book of the Government. It would be too open and honest to suit those in power.

The authorities declare that the I.W.W. exists, as "an illegal association."

It is insisted that the I.W.W. shall exist, seemingly for the purpose of being used as evidence against members of the working class, and to provide a political yell.

Melrose in his appeal put up so strong a case that Judge Scholes refused to uphold the conviction without consideration. That is to say, he entertained serious doubts as to the justness of the finding in the Lower Court.

But when we learned that the judge had not acted straightway on this opinion, and that his decision was reserved, we prophesied that it was all up with Melrose—class bias would solve the problem.

This is not a charge against Judge Scholes. Had we the running of things, we trust we should be so class biased that his crowd would cease to exist, as a class.

That, however, is quite apart from the manner in which the evidence was taken.

We do not affirm that his Honor permitted anything to be used that the law framed by his class would consider unfair, nor is it to be thought that the barrister for the defence sat quiet that all sorts of jokes might be put upon his client.

To begin with, his Honor took the line of argument that the I.W.W. constitution contains no clause nor machinery for the withdrawal of a man from membership.

On the other hand, he held that, as the association had been declared illegal, no man could be compelled to remain a member against his will.

Why did not his Honor rule that the Act itself put a period to all memberships?

According to his Honor, there is no provision made for resignations. This explains why members, when they wish to sever their connection with the Wobblies, simply drift out by becoming unfinancial.

If Melrose were in the "drifting" stage, it would be utterly impossible for him to show a clearance or a resolution that his resignation had been accepted.

Again, Melrose could not call an official of the I.W.W. to testify in his favor, as any official who did so would be providing evidence against himself.

His Honor said: "There was no evidence to show how he (Melrose) had become a member at Broken Hill?"

That is equivalent to saying there was no evidence to show he had become a member at Broken Hill. It seems to us that evidence of his membership here was totally lacking, beyond his own statement that he retired from the association last September.

Why should Melrose have made the gratuitous statement that he had been a member of the I.W.W. in this State, the authorities having no evidence to that effect, except it were that he desired to be quite straightforward in his defence?

And as Melrose unnecessarily told the truth upon the beginning, why should he be considered to have lied respecting the termination of his I.W.W. membership?

The evidence against Melrose was that he had been a prominent visitor to the I.W.W. rooms and had knocked about with the secretary.

In the light of the Unlawful Associations Act, how may that be considered evidence against Melrose?

This was the first case under the Act, and we say it is remarkable that the authorities should say I.W.W. rooms still exist, or that there is a secretary, neither statement having been proved.

Strange how these cases seem to be honeycombed with precedents.

If the police had a case against the alleged secretary, doubtless they would have brought it on. But how came the court to admit as evidence the allegation that an unconvicted man was secretary of the I.W.W.?

So far as the Barrier knows, Harry Melrose is a member of no organisation but the A.M.A.

He left here five months ago. Did he

THE CLASS WAR.

Others' Views.

(To the Editor).

Sir,—I have long since been converted to the I.W.W. Through continual reading of "Direct Action," and further study of the contentions propagated therein, I have evolved to the rational stage of mind. I then began to realise and discern the factors of progress and evolution. I now realise that the human race is entering into what will be known in the future as the "Economic Era." In acquiring the smallest degree of economical wisdom, we immediately discard all pre-existing hopes of emancipation from leaders, morality and such like abstractions.

We see distinctly that the foundation of capitalism is built up on surplus value, or the unpaid hours of the workman.

The I.W.W. fully realise this. The average intelligent unionist believes the goal of the future is reached in gaining Nationalisation of the means of production and exchange. The ignorant unionist is satisfied in gaining preference to unionists, and the privilege of doing a "fair day's work for a fair day's pay."

I now see that within the complex workings of evolution, there is always a stage of death or parasitism.

We can notice how the functional organisms of the mother generate the nucleus of the future life maker. How it develops until it reaches a stage when it becomes a parasite on the mother's body, and is consequently thrown off.

We can liken the political machine to this existence.

There comes a time when a member of Parliament becomes an obstruction, observe the change from capitalist representative to Labour, from Labour to Socialist (this the I.W.W. the future functional organism, call the parasite stage of the political machine), and finally our objective, the Industrial Delegation. In the jailing, the dismissal, the venom meted out to the I.W.W., up to the present and throughout the time to come, we simply observe the convulsions of the old and the new organisms—the change from death to life.

Looking into the future we instinctively realise that a time will be when the human race will have evolved to a state wherein the positions of privilege, the necessity of police and even written laws will reach what we would conceive with our present intelligence to be a minimum. This will result from education.

The trouble to-day, confronting man is our inconsistency, due to want of knowledge. Therefore, change or progress is consequently slow. When a new machine was invented only a few years ago, the workers thought to destroy it, and remain in the old condition, until we found that such was impossible, as supply and demand proved that the coming of the new machine was inevitable. Now we realise this, and we don't fear what new invention comes along since we realise our coming (one union power).

We can liken the advent of the I.W.W. and our old union machines as a similar paradox.

As the growth of supply and demand increased so did it necessitate a development of the functional machines, just as in the growth of international oppression, the development of the functions of resistance took place.

In the face of these facts, let the day be soon when we will cease to fear and restrain from the I.W.W., the new Unionism.

T. HEALY.

Rockhampton.

True, Just the Same.

A newspaper correspondent at Budapest, Austria, says that a mutilated soldier, with one leg, and half an arm left in a battlefield, while riding in a street car in that city struck a woman passenger across the face with his remaining fist, whereupon, we are told that other passengers raised an uproar and threatened to do him violence.

The soldier explained that he had been driven to the act by the woman, whom he heard remarking to her companion, "We are doing splendidly; if the war last another five years we shall be millionaires several times over," and he added, "I have not suffered mutilation to make millionaires of heartless women."

He hadn't?

What had he "suffered mutilation" for, except to make millionaires of war-lords and exploiters?

The woman was "heartless" all right, as heartless as the rest of the ruling robbers of earth, but she told that shot-up soldier the truth just the same.

To make millionaires is what modern wars are for, and they are for nothing else, and the sooner the "mutilated" soldiers get this into their brains the better.

Everybody's joining it. Joining what? Joining IT. The One Big Union.

What shall the working-class do to rid themselves of the curse of all despotism, called capitalism, and also secure justice and freedom? We can do nothing, absolutely nothing, TILL WE UNDERSTAND.

1st, the structure, 2nd, the purpose, 3rd, the chief results of the present order of society, and as a class understand the art of self-defence. The present capitalist form of society is divided into two classes, the capitalist class and the working-class. Each of these two classes has industrial interests as a class. These industrial class interests conflict, and there is, therefore, as a part of, and because of, the class structure and class purpose of society, a constant class conflict—a class struggle. Of course, we all wish to live and be comfortable. To live and be comfortable we must consume useful things, but before we can consume useful things they must be produced. Now, in performing this industrial work, we use raw materials, mines, forests, mills, factories, tools, machinery, railways, etc., and these things are called the means of production. We make use of these means of production in applying our labor power. But one class, the capitalist class, owns the mines, forests, mills, factories and fields, and buys labor power, and the other class, the working class, use the means of production and sell labor power.

Surely, you can see there are two industrial classes. In addition, the capitalist class has three special advantages in this class-struggle. First, the capitalist class are more class-conscious than the working class; that is, the capitalists more distinctly realise that as capitalists they constitute a class with class interests to defend.

Second, the capitalists, because they are more class-conscious, are naturally more loyal than the working class. In obedience to the "biological law of self-preservation," a class, as well as an individual, will defend themselves as a class; that is, be class loyal in proportion, as they are aware of, and understand the interests of their class. The capitalists understand that they are a class with class interests; they are always cooing softly to all workers who are gullible and ignorant enough to listen to these walling about "no classes," "all in the same boat," "harmony of interests," "interests perfectly identical." The capitalist studies tactics of class warfare tactics of industrial struggle, far more than the workers do. Being more class conscious, and therefore more class loyal, and consequently more eager, as a class, for self-defence, the capitalist class naturally study more patiently the ways and means for their own class defence, and because they do study more, they really know more about the game called the class-struggle, about the art of self-defence and class-defence in industry. They themselves band together, but they divide and rule the flim-flamed, bamboozled working class, thus they, the profit-stuffed parasites, successfully rule the toilers at the point of production. The workers, having no part

draw a clearance to the Sydney branch of the I.W.W., or did he not? Has he been paying his dues to the Barrier branch, or has he not?

Under the circumstances, it would seem but reasonable that if he were a member he should let his dues run up till he returned—for he did not know when he would be recalled, and the I.W.W. dues would scarce reach the secretary through the post office.

Unless Melrose drew a clearance (which would have been foolish, since he had no idea that he would be in one place any stated time), he must have been bad on the books, whether he intended to pay up or drift out.

We say without hesitation that under the circumstances it is beyond the realm of reason that Harry Melrose could have been a financial member of the I.W.W. last February.

But it is not the business of the authorities to reason along these lines, obvious though they be.

Yet there are toilers who consider all is well with the world.

—"Barrier Daily Truth."

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Workers, would you like a better shack, better tucker, and more pay? If so, join the I.W.W., and learn how to get it.

in the ownership of the means of production, craftily fooled with false teachings of "identity of interests," sore and humble with disappointment, whipped with the lash of hunger, stung with desperation, confused and traduced by bribed pets; spies and traitors, the workers angrily, blindly, split up into jealous groups, shamefully neglect and turn against one another (as witness the twelve brave lads now in gaol) fight one another, under-bid one another, desert one another, and defeat one another. The workers, of course, are thus easily defeated, and robbed industrially. And all this is entirely satisfactory to our dear, kind industrial masters. Now, what shall we do about it? Non-resistance is not natural, especially for the class-conscious workers, for workers who understand their interests as a class, non-resistance is not reasonable, is not safe, and is not possible. Non-resistance would mean defeat and degradation for the working-class.

Then peace is a childish dream, so long as this system of capitalism exists. We must resist; we must fight; yes, fight not only for our very existence under the system, but also fight for the overthrow of wage-slavery.

We must destroy capitalism, and close the class struggle.

This will surely take place when the conscious workers successfully explain capitalism with all its ramifications to the confused and deluded workers. The class war will cease when we have explained the national and international conspiracy of the capitalist class. The class war will cease when we rouse the workers of the world by explaining. By explaining we inform. By informing we increase intelligence. By increasing intelligence we increase self-respect, and the passion for a greater life and for the freedom necessary for a greater life. Therefore, explain, inside and outside the shops, everywhere, in shops, mills, mine and on the farm. Explain till the young working-class man, inside and outside the ranks see the light. Explain till our class becomes class-conscious; till it sees itself, sees itself and its class power. Explain to your fellow-workers, your class brothers and class sisters that there is a class war in industry. Explain patiently and persistently to the betrayed multitude of toiled-damned working-class brother, "the working-class and the employing class have nothing in common," that 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. Explain it is the historic mission of the working class to do away with this system of capitalism, and that the army of workers must be organised not only for the every day struggle with the capitalists, but also to carry on the production when capitalism is overthrown; by organising industrially and scientifically grouping the workers according to industry, we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

W. JACKSON.

The Fifth Conference.

The Fifth Trades Union Conference on behalf of the imprisoned I.W.W. men was held at 403 Sussex street, Sydney, on Saturday afternoon, 21st April.

The delegates present represented 30 labor organisations.

The secretary reported that no answer had yet been received from the Government to the demand made at the request of the previous Conference for the immediate release of the I.W.W. men in gaol.

Miners' Lodge delegates reported that a strong agitation was in progress in their districts, and that Defence and Release Committees had been formed. Other delegates reported favourable consideration by their unions of the militant attitude adopted by the Conference.

The secretary was instructed to further communicate with Trades Unions who had not yet been represented, pointing out the seriousness of the apathetic attitude to working class security obviously adopted by them. It was decided to recommend to the various Defence and Release Committees that they carry on a vigorous campaign and combine the efforts of propagandists wherever necessary.

Messrs. Lowden and Nelson were appointed to represent the Conference at the May Day Demonstration in the Domain on May 6th.

The next Conference will be held on Saturday, August 2nd, unless circumstances arise which will make it necessary to call a special meeting before that date.

A. SINCLAIR,
Sec. of Conference.

Montague Miller Farewelled.

Some Sterling Speeches.

On Friday evening, April 13th, a farewell social was tendered to Fellow Worker Monty Miller by his many friends and admirers in Perth, W.A. The function was held at Mrs. Keough's new banquet hall in Newcastle street, Perth. The hall was brilliantly lighted and splendidly decorated for the occasion. Mrs. Keough, who had charge of the catering arrangements provided an abundance of everything in the way of foods and drinks, which were done full justice to by the guests present.

The large and enthusiastic attendance of workers and their wives and children showed in a manner more eloquent than words, the high esteem in which Monty Miller was held by them.

Mr. Bill Roach, president of the Trades Hall, Fremantle, who presided, extended a welcome to all present, and said that they had met that evening for the purpose of saying farewell to their old and trusted comrade, Monty Miller, who was leaving for the Eastern States by the s.s. Katoomba on the following morning. He called on Mr. Jack Curtin, editor W.A. "Worker," to propose the toast of the Labour Movement.

Mr. Curtin, in the course of an eloquent speech, paid a high tribute to the many sterling qualities possessed by the guest of the evening. He knew of no man in Australia who had done more for the Labour movement than Monty Miller. In season and out of season, and year after year throughout his long life, Monty Miller had fought the battle of Labor. He was still fighting it. He had never wavered, or faltered, or departed from the straight path. In spite of his old age, Monty Miller was still as strong and as vigorous a fighter as he ever was.

Mr. J. Doherty, of the Timber Workers' Union, supported the toast. He drew the comparison of the attitude taken up by the boddlers and capitalists when the workers rebelled. It was quite the proper thing to do, and the news was received with acclamation when the workers of Russia or Germany rebelled, but it was disloyal and seditious for the workers of England or Australia to do likewise, who were fighting against the same economic conditions as the workers of Germany and Russia. The Labor movement was the hope of the world's workers, and it was only by working class organisation that would enable the world's workers to make wars impossible and free themselves from the slavery of capitalism.

Mr. Tom Butler, of the A.W.W., challenged the power of Parliament to do more for the people than the people were prepared to do for themselves. The Labor movement stood for a policy and a programme for the working class. It was for that policy and programme which he worked and strived for; not for the purpose of putting men as representatives into power and positions of affluence.

Fellow Worker Phil Candlish, secretary of the Fremantle Local, vigorously condemned political action on the part of the workers. It was waste of time and effort. It had made the Labor movement what it was to-day: a movement misrepresented and betrayed by men who used it for the purposes of personal gain at the expense and by the suffering of the working class. If the workers of Australia had devoted the whole of their time and money to industrial organisation and effort they would be in a stronger position to-day. The Labor leaders in Parliament had introduced conscription for boys; they had tried to do the same for the men of Australia, and he was glad that they had failed. He expected as the aftermath of the present war yellow men and blackmen in Australia and England would be singing "Britannia rules the waves," "Britons shall never be slaves."

In proposing the toast of "Our Guest" the chairman, Mr. W. Roach, said that his first introduction to the principles of Democracy took place as the result of the teachings of Mr. Monty Miller. From him he understood the meaning of the class struggle in Perth, and whether it meant jailing or not, the workers would have to be taught what constituted the class struggle and the way to end it.

On behalf of those present he had great pleasure in presenting Monty Miller with a small sum of money; not as a reward of payment, but as a slight token of esteem and appreciation. All the money in Australia would not be sufficient to pay Monty Miller for the work he had done on behalf of the workers, and all the money in Australia would not cause him to desert the principles for which he stood for. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Don Cameron, of the Plumbers' Union,

briefly supported the toast proposed by the chairman. He, like others, knew Monty Miller years ago, when he was fighting the cause of Labor against great odds, and with very little support. From Eureka in 1854 right on to the Conscription campaign in 1916, Miller had fought, continuously in the great battle for working class liberty. He had been wounded by soldiers and gaoled and bludgeoned by the police. But the old warrior of Labor was unconquerable and invincible. He lived on, and would fight on. Miller stood against the church, which commands what men shall believe, and against the economic slavery, which commands what the workers shall do.

On rising to respond to the toast, Fellow Worker Monty Miller received a great ovation. Speaking with much feeling, and with that eloquence which has charmed his hearers for over half a century, he thanked the speakers for all the kind things they had said of him, and for the tributes which they had paid to him for the work which he had done in the past. When he looked back at the past and looked forward to the future, he felt gratified that he had been, and was still, against political action. While he differed with many present on that aspect of working class tactics, they all agreed on the Ideals of Labor. The Ideals were free production for labor, and free distribution for all the sons and daughters of democracy. The Labor movement did not stand for leaders. He refused to be a leader; he wanted to be a comrade, and fight shoulder to shoulder with other comrades for the emancipation of the working class. He was pleased to notice that that spirit was taking hold of the working class movement. He was pleased also to notice many modifications which were taking place in the organising of the Labor movement which were improvements which he had always advocated as being necessary. But they had a good deal more to do in that direction before the workers could be reckoned as an effective fighting force. He hoped that the time was not far distant when the workers would realise and recognise that the policy of the I.W.W. was the only policy which could make them what they hoped to be and what was necessary for them to be.

There were stirring times ahead. He may not be present to see them. It was the younger element to whom he must look to carry on the work which had been done in the past. He was 85 years of age next July, and felt as young and as active as ever he was. A call had come from his fellow workers in the Eastern States for him to come over and help in the fight that was going on. To-morrow he would be on his way to those who had called him.

That day he had called at the Fremantle Gaol for the purpose of saying good-bye to Mick Sawtell. He was allowed an interview of 20 minutes, but was not allowed to shake hands with his fellow worker. But he did so, in spite of the warder and the regulations. It was a handshake which he would never forget; it was something magnetic, which fired him with a determination that in the last years of his life and with the last ounce of his strength he would spend in the interests of his mates who had suffered.

There were men in the gaols of N.S.W. who were condemned to stop there for a long period of time. It would be his duty to make the workers-conscious of what had been done to the men who had done so much for them, and were now suffering. He would tell them of the wrongs that had been done. No sacrifice, as far as he was personally concerned, would be too great, or would be spared to release those men now languishing in the capitalists' gaols.

Concluding, Monty Miller thanked those present for the magnificent reception they had given him, and trusted that in the near future he would be with them again.

During the evening a splendid and varied programme of musical items and recitations was gone through.

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The International.

May Day was gloriously celebrated at Leigh House, Sydney, on Tuesday evening, May 1st. The turn-out was organised by the Russian Club, and it took the form of an "International Night."

The electric lights, which were shaded with scarlet bunting, lent an alluring effect to the dance hall. The stage was decorated with working-class mottoes, and the flag of the Russian rebels was displayed prominently in the centre.

The proceedings were opened by Fellow-Worker G. Kuznetsov, who also delivered a speech in Russian. Several speakers followed, speaking in the different national tongues, while Comrade Reardon, of the A.S.P., and Fellow-Worker Rance, of the I.W.W., delivered the goods in English.

Songs, recitations, dances and musical items of international repute were gone through to the great amusement and appreciation of all assembled. "The Red Flag" and several "wobbly" songs were lustily sung by the audience.

Men, women and children from all parts of the world, fraternised together, and demonstrated to the international spirit of the working-class movement.

The audience knew of only one war, and by speeches and songs, showed to all that the workers of the world had only one enemy.

May the international spirit continue to grow, and the workers of the world realise the true significance of the Red Flag and May Day.

ROCKHAMPTON.

For the past three weeks, 400 members of the A. M. I. E. Union, engaged at Lakes Creek, have been idle, on account of the dispute, between the Waterside workers, and the Imperial Shipping Freights Committee, over the proper reading of their award. The award says, that waterside workers, loading frozen meat at Port Alma, should receive full pay as in day working hours for the hours between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., unless proper sleeping accommodation is provided. The shipping company contend that the Port Alma shed constitutes proper sleeping accommodation, the workers think otherwise. Port Alma is about 40 miles from Rockhampton.

On account of the tide rising and covering the land for nine miles, there is no habitation. The workers journey from Rockhampton, and remain on the wharf till the work is completed.

As a result of the deadlock, no Freezing Boats call at Port Alma. The workers are severely working all other boats including meat boats, at all other ports, while the works at Lakes Creek, remain crammed to the doors with frozen meat, and these workers are on the bread line.

In sheer wonderment the meat workers who showed a degree of virility in the recent skirmish with the meat barons, view the weakness of the waterside workers.

In the grip of the Arbitration, throngs combined with the unlawful Association Act, they are demoralised. Questions of investigations, brings to light the awful fact, that the Australian Federation of W. Workers is in name only, being instead sectional groups of disorganised workers. It now remains for the Meat Workers to take up the fight and by their intelligence and solidarity give protection to their weaker and helpless fellow-workers, illustrating thereby that in unity is strength, and fake amalgamations of labor will always fail, and should not be tolerated.

T. HEALY,
Meatworker.

Opportunity.

"I would give the half of what I possess to have the opportunity of enlisting—Sir William Irvine."

Now, what a pity, Sir William,
Such valor to run to waste;
(For you're not what the psalmist of old
Called all men in haste).
Let's see if we cannot, Sir William,
Find you a way through the mist,
To relieve you of half of your money,
So that you're able to list.
Or the whole of your money, Sir William,
To make it undoubtedly sure;
I've noticed poor men are the fellows
Who find war a lure.
But joking apart, dear Sir William,
Money or no, there's a way:
Just drop in at the Town Hall Depot,
And explain your dilemma some day;
It's on Collins-street corner, Sir William,
Swanston-street section. Now hark 'e,
The officials there will take pity,
And show you the way into khaki.
FEM.

—In "Woman Voter."

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STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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