

Shorter Hours and Slower Work mean Longer Pay.

# DIRECT ACTION



VOL 2 NO. 34.

Registered at G.P.O., Sydney. SYDNEY, AUGUST 1, 1915.

ONE PENNY

## Federated Seamen's "Unionism" "Union" Magistrates Deal out Stoush.

Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia,  
Queensland Branch,  
61 Edward-street, Brisbane,  
10/5/1915.

Mr. A. Cooper,

General Secretary, Seamen's Union.

Dear Sir,—The following complaints have been laid before me by the various companies, re delinquents. The chief engineer of the Binger reports three cases of desertion in Townsville, and when these men were asked to come aboard, two of them refused; the other was not to be found anywhere. Three non-unionists engaged as substitutes, namely, J. Perry (number not known to me); W. Perry, No. 9407, and G. Perry, A8075. Branch Executive recommended suspension in case of J. and W. Perry, six months, and G. Perry, fine of £3, not to sail until fine paid. "No suspension" in the case of G. Perry.

The chief engineer of S.S. Mauna reports two men—Clark and Horne—being absent from ship in Rockhampton a full day, and, when spoken to, Clark replied, when told he would be reported to the union, that the union could do nothing to him. These men were both logged. Clark is in Sydney; Horne is in Brisbane. Executive recommends that they be written to asking them to show cause why they should not be dealt with according to rules.

Mr. Ogden reports being assaulted by a man named Albert Scanlon whilst in the execution of his duty, and called a bastard. Executive imposed a fine of £3, man not to sail until fine is paid. Wired Ogden to that effect.

Mr. Pain, Australian Steamships Limited, reports two men from S.S. Time, being absent without leave, namely, George Cook, fined £2 12s. 6d. or fourteen days, and 10s. or 48 hours imprisonment for obscene language; Jas. Crohan, absent without leave, fined £2 6s. 4d. or fourteen days (vessel delayed), and 30s. car hire, entailed in finding substitutes. Mr. Pain requests this being brought under your notice. Letter dated May 5, 1915.

A further letter on May 6, reports that C. Swanson, lying on deck drunk and making derogatory remarks about the British, he was given in charge, but, unfortunately, Mr. Pain states, charged under the wrong Act. He further states that he hopes this man will get his deserts from the union. Letter also reports J. French and S. Pender, trimmers, deserted from the Bombala at sailing time; charged at court and got eight weeks with hard labor and forfeit all wages due.

Executive recommend suspension in the case of French and Pender for 12 months, and in the case of Cook, Crohan and Swanson, that they be summoned before the Executive to show cause why they should not be dealt with.—Yours fraternally,

CHARLES BURKE, Secretary.

The Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia,  
Victorian Branch,  
No. 2 Maritime Buildings, South Wharf,  
South Melbourne, June 1, 1915.

Arthur Cooper,

General Secretary, Federated Seamen's Union.

Dear Sir,—You will find enclosed a copy of a letter that was sent from the master of the S.S. Westralia:

7537 A.B. W. Townsend and 1881 Fireman C. Whipp, the Executive of this branch recommends that they be suspended for one month. Regarding Regan, this man did not sign articles, and he told the second engineer that he could not get his clothes in time before the ship sailed, and another man was at the shipping office at the time, and he signed on and went in the ship, therefore the charge against Regan cannot be maintained.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. BELFRAGE, Secretary.

Huddart Parker, Limited,  
464-466 Collins-street, Melbourne.  
May 18th, 1915.

The Soc., Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia,  
Normanby-road, South Melbourne.

Dear Sir,—The following is a copy of letter we have received from the master of our S.S. Westralia, dated Sydney, May 17th, 1915: "I beg to report that W. Townsend, A.B., joined the above vessel under the influence of liquor, and is to be discharged on arrival in Sydney, besides being fined a day's pay for being unable to perform any duty on Sunday, May 16th. Two firemen, C. Whipp, and J. Regan, both failed to join the ship before sailing, and substitutes were engaged in their place. The above entries appear in the ship's official log."

Please take the necessary steps to have the above men dealt with, as set forth under the new rules.—Yours faithfully,

HUDDART PARKER, LIMITED.

A. M'PETRIE, Asst. Sup. J. L. WEBB, Director.

### THE FIGURE MOVES.

### ACTION OF BRANCH EXECUTIVE ENDORSED BY FEDERAL EXECUTIVE.

At a special meeting of the Federal Executive held on Saturday, 12th June, 1915, the General President (Senator R. S. Guthrie), Mr. Alex. Campbell (executive officer), Mr. Frank Burrows (executive councillor) and Mr. Arthur Cooper (General Secretary) being present, the above correspondence was considered.

The penalties inflicted by the Queensland Branch Executive on members of the crew of the S.S. "Binger," and the penalties inflicted by the Victorian Branch Executive on members of the crew of the S.S. "Westralia," for breaches of the new rules adopted by the Annual Conference of the Executive Council of the Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia, at Melbourne, March 19, 1915, and incorporated under the

## Which?

### PATRIOTIC PHILANTHROPY OR PROFIT-PRODUCING EFFICIENCY.

A gentleman signing himself "Garnet V. Portus, B.Litt., Tutor to Workers' Educational Assoc.," has something to say in the "Herald" of July 24th on the question of pensioning disabled soldiers. Garnet V., etc., only mildly approves of the idea, being of the opinion that "there are many positions in industry that could be filled by one-armed or one-legged or one-eyed or stiff-jointed men," and advocates that the able-bodied at present filling such positions "should be transferred to jobs which the able-bodied can and the not-quite-able-bodied cannot perform."

Garnet is surely an ingenious cuss. He speaks as if labour under capitalism were something systematically arranged by society and such things as wages, profits and the labor-market were non-existent. Surely it is up to some of the workers whom Garnet "tutors" to point out to this "B. Litt." that their experience in the labor market has taught them that where ever the boss employs a one-eyed or stiff-jointed slave it is because he is a less expensive factor in production than the able-bodied. The latter is left to "transfer" his supplanted labor energy as best he may, or, mayhap, is left on the street corner to philosophise on that beautiful system, so beloved by "B. Litts," and their kindred, that compels the young, the weak and the disabled to work for a pittance whilst manhood in its prime is permitted to starve in the fruitless quest of a job.

The idea, it is only fair to say, however, underlying Garnet's suggestion, is that all possible labor should be utilised in replacing the surplus-value destroyed during the war, "shot away from guns or sunk in the ocean," as he puts it. Of course, he uses the term "capital" in place of surplus-value, though one may search the economists in vain for a rational explanation of the circumstances under which bullets and war-ships become capital. Until Garnet V. Portus, B. Litt., undertook to educate the workers on the subject, we had thought that capital was wealth employed for purposes of production and re-production, but as shrapnel and guns produce a wealth of misery and destitution, Garnet may be logical after all.

For the purpose of re-production of surplus value, therefore, we are told that even the trade unions, whose chief care is that of distribution, will have to concern themselves more with production—with efficiency. Ha, ha! here is the key to Garnet's solicitude for the disabled soldier! In the guise of a philanthropic patriot he calls upon the workers to concern themselves less with distribution and more with increasing their products irrespective of the proportion they receive. It does not occur to the patriotic Portus that if the workers in the past had concerned themselves about the distribution of those products to the extent of their full appropriation there would not be a surplus to be converted into shot and shell to blow their class to hell with. No, obvious facts of this kind are beneath the notice of those superior people who undertake to "tutor" the workers on the subject of economics. The philanthropic Portus, like his type in all countries, would have the workers live on the smell of an oil-rag, concern themselves less with "distribution," and go on increasing their efficiency in piling up surplus value until its magnitude had reached such

## The Way of Kings Crowned and Uncrowned

(By Covington Hall)

Ye are prating of your power, but the sky of time is gray,  
And the fullness of your madness it shall ripen with the day.  
Ye shall waken in the moment when the great world shakes and reels,  
When the mad brute host of hunger from the slums and darkness steals;  
Ye shall waken to the reaping of the fruits your hands have sown,  
And the measure ye have meted to the race shall be your own.  
Think ye not that fate is idle and your own the Supreme Will  
For the wrecks that strew the aeons tell that Right is reigning still.  
Dream ye not that Mammon conquers, trust ye not too much to gold,  
For the shell is not the substance, and the flesh is not the soul.  
If you doubt it, pause and listen; lift aside the veil of time:  
Where is Rome and all her splendor? Where is Athens, the sublime?  
Where are all the Persian millions? Where the proud Egyptian host?  
Tell me, does imperial Carthage still adorn the Africa coast?  
Where the empire of the Incas? Where is Montezuma's throne?  
Where is Spain and Spanish glory in the world once called her own?  
Where are India's mighty princes? Where the Babylonian kings?  
Tell me, ye who kneel in worship at the shrine of blood-bought things!  
Proud ye are, and will not answer—ye are swelled with folly vast—  
Neither will ye heed the lesson that is taught by ages past.  
Like the scribes of ancient Judah yet depend on Roman might,  
But the buried Truth is risen and the faith still lives to-night.  
There be some ye cannot silence; there be some ye cannot kill;  
And the blood of martyred spirits is the seed of progress still;  
Love and freedom are still powers in the human heart and soul,  
And, undaunted, Liberty still marches onward to the goal!  
But all words are worse than useless—Reason's self ye would deride—  
Ye are but the sons of folly and the slaves of pure-born pride;  
Ye are strangers unto mercy; ye are deaf and dumb and blind;  
Ye have never paused to listen to the human heart and mind,  
Justice, honor, hope and virtue; ye as evil things disdain—  
Lo! I hear the Sons of Esau coming over hill and plain,  
And the hymns of freedom ringing 'round a rebel world again!

proportions that a war over markets for the spoil again became inevitable. That is why he warns his capitalist benefactors and friends that we cannot afford after the war to waste any kind of productive energy whatever. "The one-legged, one-armed, one-eyed, stiff-jointed," boneheaded patriot is classed in the same category as a horse, a machine, or locomotive, specially meant by a divine Providence to function on this planet as so much "productive energy" to minister to the avarice of the plutocrats who've purchased the brains of Portus. He admits, though, that the matter has what he calls a "sentimental aspect." Those men have suffered for us; what shall we do for them?" he asks. "It is gratifying to see that he has some inkling of the quarter which benefits by the suffering; but his benevolent intentions would appear to be in the direction of appropriating whatever "productive energy" the sufferers have left for the advantage of his capitalist patrons. Philanthropic, Patriotic Portus, thou art surely a worthy exponent of W.E.A. economics!"

THOS. GLYNN.

### STICKERS.

Stickers are one of the most effective propaganda dodges that can be used. The Press Committee have printed a large quantity, which are now on sale to members, and locals. The prices are 2s. 6d. per thousand; 11s. for 5000; and £1 for 10,000. Orders despatched by return.

Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, were exhaustively considered, and it was unanimously decided that they be endorsed.

Fireman G. Perry, No. 9407, fined £3.

Fireman W. Perry, No. 8075, suspended for 6 months from May 10, 1915.

Fireman J. Perry, No. —, suspended for 6 months from May 10, 1915.

Fireman C. Whipp, No. 1881, suspended for 1 month, from June 12, 1915.

A.B. W. Townsend, No. 7537, suspended for 1 month, from June 12, 1915.

—Australian Seamen's Journal.

## Criticism -- P'raps.

Here is a choice sample of the advice tendered to the "scabs" who term themselves the "Industrial workers of the world":—"Treat the boss as an enemy, an unscrupulous enemy, too." Truly, a splendid ideal to inculcate into the minds of its members—an ideal worthy of the sewer from which it emanated.

If you can't get what you want—however unreasonable that want may be—knock the boss on the head with a belaying pin. How different have been the means adopted by the members of the F.S.U., guided by the advice of their officials. They have treated the shipowners as men, with rights to conserve, as well as their own. They have gone about their business with the shipowners in a manly, business-like straightforward manner—the only way which finds a response in the heart of every true-minded British seaman—with the result that to-day the conditions of seafaring life under the rules of the Federated Seamen's Union have been altered to such an extent that a seaman's life has become as secure, as comfortable and as remunerative as any other industry.

With the absolute loyalty of its members, and the continued confidence of those members in their officials of the F.S.U., will ever remain, as it is to-day, one of the leading industrial organisations, constituting one of the strongest links in that great chain of Federated Unionism which, we hope and trust, will make for the industrial peace of the civilised world.—"Australian Seaman's Journal."

Will George Barrett, of Arrawatta, please communicate with this office, re naturalisation papers in his possession. Any member or subscriber knowing F.W. Barrett, please call his attention to this, as it is important.



## Direct Action

## Surplus Value and the Proletariat.

## Melbourne

## Dupes of Capitalism.

## Boulder.



OFFICIAL ORGAN

Of the

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF  
THE WORLD.

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## Organisation News

Locals are requested to forward re-  
ports of half-yearly meetings to General  
Office, and also half-yearly balance  
sheets.The Preamble and application form  
in Chinese are now available, and can  
be obtained from the Press Committee  
for 1/6 per hundred.Donations are always thankfully re-  
ceived, but we prefer subs and litera-  
ture orders. Then we know that they  
are making good in the right way.  
It's up to you.A new four page leaflet, entitled  
"Unemployment," "Its Cause, Effect,  
Cure, as Diagnosed, Observed, and  
Proposed by the I.W.W.," has been is-  
sued by the Press Committee. The  
prices are 1/ per 100, and 7/ per 1000.  
Orders should be placed immediately.  
Just the thing for collections. Good  
for opening up new country.A new pamphlet by Fellow-worker  
Glynna, entitled "Industrial Efficiency,  
It's Antidote," will be issued short-  
ly. It will probably sell at 2d., whole-  
sale at 1/6 dozen. After that the  
Committee intend to republish Alex.  
George's "Why the A.W.U. Cannot  
Become an Industrial Union," and B.  
William's brochure "The Constructive  
Program of the I.W.W." in the one  
cover.In future issues of "Direct Action"  
we will publish cartoons by Fellow-  
worker Syd. Nicholls, who is probably  
one of the most promising cartoonists  
in Australia. These cartoons will not  
interfere with the general amount of  
reading matter, as it is our intention to  
eliminate standing matter considerably.  
The cartoon will help to sell the pa-  
per, and we hope that bundle orders and  
subscribers will receive an impetus from  
the improved appearance generally of  
"Direct Action."Good work is reported from the coun-  
try districts by members of the organ-  
isation. Many of the country mem-  
bers are doing yeoman work getting  
subs for the paper. F. W. Healy, of  
Innisfail, is easily our best to date.  
He has sent in about thirty subs in  
two months. Let's hear from the rest.The half-yearly meeting of the  
Broken Hill Local was held on the first  
Sunday of July. The elections result-  
ed as follows: Secretary-Treasurer,  
C. H. Barrett; president, M. C. Trif-  
fit; trustees, J. Morcom, F. Giffney,  
and F. Rata.The one vital problem before the  
working class to-day is how to get hold  
of the surplus value they produce.All questions of religion, morality or  
ethics sink into insignificance before  
this pressing necessity.In fact, the only way by which the  
working class can begin to be religious  
or moral is by their efforts to secure  
the surplus value created by them, but  
at present taken by the master class.Art, science, music and literature  
perform beautifying and ennobling  
functions in life, but until the work-  
ing class wrests to its own use and  
benefit surplus value these do but mock  
its chains.Various propositions are brought for-  
ward as to the way in which this sur-  
plus value is to be secured.Bonehead No. 1 says that the way  
out of the wood for the worker is to  
buy a 5/8 ticket in "Tattersall's" and  
win a few thousand pounds.By balancing official receipts and ex-  
penditure in this enterprise, it will be  
found, however, that the "investors"  
chance of annexing Surplus Value in  
this way is in the proportion of 1 in  
120. Whatever such a scheme as this  
may do for the individual, it obviously  
cannot be relied upon as a means of  
working class emancipation. To achieve  
that emancipation workers must pur-  
sue a course of action that will be a  
"clutch," without any elements of  
gambling or speculation, and that will  
not injure the interests of their own  
class.Bonehead No. 2 says it is by the  
exercise of "thrift" that labour must  
secure its Surplus Value. The worker  
must "save" his wages, invest in cap-  
italistic enterprise, following the line  
of least resistance, and thus gradually ac-  
quire power, by means of rent, profit  
and interest; to take to himself some  
share of Surplus Value. This result is  
called, by high-salaried professors of  
political economy, the "reward of ab-  
stinence."The plan is impracticable, however,  
for the working class as a whole. A  
universal lowering of the standard of  
living would not benefit labour. The  
exercise of "thrift" on the part of the  
workers would show the master class  
that the proletariat could exist on less,  
and wages would go down with a run.  
It is a queer doctrine that the way to  
get all is to take less.Bonehead No. 3, piously inclined,  
says that workers must "seek first the  
Kingdom of God, and all other things  
will be added unto them."Students of the class struggle know  
very well, however, that the master  
class do not rely upon the "Kingdom of  
God," whatever that may be, for their  
power to exploit labour. Private "own-  
ership" of the instruments of produc-  
tion and distribution, familiarly known  
as land and capital, is found to be far  
more dependable.Various efforts are made by "the  
little brothers of the rich" to secure by  
"illegal" methods some share of Sur-  
plus Value. In these endeavours they  
are not robbing the workers, for the  
latter would not in any case share the  
spoils. As all attempts on the part of  
labour, organised or unorganised, to  
commandeer Surplus Value are "il-  
legal," those exponents of "direct ac-  
tion," described by the above title, are  
certainly nearer the mark than advo-  
cates of, say, parliamentary and con-  
stitutional action, for instance.Indeed, it is a debatable question  
whether the constitutionalists, by foisting  
upon the workers such expedients  
as Arbitration Courts, Wages Boards  
awards, civil injunctions, and the like,  
are not (perhaps unconsciously) help-  
ing to render capitalism stable by fix-  
ing permanently a status for the work-  
er, as in the days of chattel slavery.This apart, however, there are other  
means by which the working class may  
confiscate the Surplus Value they  
create.By organising industrially on the  
lines of the One Big Union, they will  
secure the power to determine that  
working class production shall mean  
working class ownership.A scheme or plan is formulated by  
the Industrial Workers of the World,  
showing how workers may, at the point  
of production (where Surplus Value is  
created) secure the whole product of  
their toil.This plan may be learned by study-  
ing I.W.W. literature and attending  
I.W.W. meetings. We believe it to be  
the most scientific proposition ever put  
before the workers, and there is no  
doubt that its universal adoption would  
speedily usher in the Industrial Demo-  
cracy.

A. E. Brown.

Amid the devastating waves of in-  
dustrial depression, and the putrid  
atmosphere of patriotism now prevail-  
ing, Local No. 8 is bravely battling  
along and holding its own. In these  
days of madness, when many Labor  
organisations have become defunct,  
and many working class papers gone  
out of existence, it is good to know  
that we still live and function and pay  
our way.Although to-day, the I.W.W. is a  
well established institution in the city  
of Melbourne, the road we have trav-  
elled has not been all smooth and easy-  
going. At times we had to fight against  
great odds, and hard plugging work  
was our only reward, but we did our  
duty gladly and well.Our old life-long enemy, the master  
class, have not been out on their own  
in paying attention to us. Working-  
class agitators, styling themselves  
"revolutionists," have found time to  
malign, vilify, and slander the I.W.W.  
But we have lived through it all and  
triumphed over the lies, bigotry, and  
abuse indulged in by our "dear com-  
rades." If they enjoy it we do not  
mind. It is a good advertisement, and  
only exposes their own impotence and  
the weakness of their cause.The success of the I.W.W. in Mel-  
bourne has been due to our speakers  
sticking to the propaganda of Indus-  
trial Unionism and cutting out all  
side issues of no import. Any slaves  
attending our meetings can reckon on  
getting the real goods without any  
muck-shing.F. W. Anthony blew into Melbourne  
a few weeks ago in search of a mas-  
ter, and in the meantime is doing val-  
iant service on the "box" as of yore.  
We were pleased to have the services  
of F. W. King at our meetings during  
his week-end stay in port.Despite the cold and wet weather of  
late, our propaganda meetings con-  
tinue to maintain their enthusiasm  
and influence. "Direct Action" has be-  
come a "necessity of life" to many in-  
terested slaves, and its appearance is  
eagerly watched for.We still continue to address meet-  
ings of craft unions at the Trades  
Hall, and in several cases our speakers  
have been invited to give another ad-  
dress at some future date. Good work  
has been done at the Trades Hall, and  
we intend to continue it so long as  
possible.Our new premises at 243 William-  
street, City, has met with the ap-  
proval of all who have inspected same.  
Any inter-tribe slave passing this way  
is asked to give us a call, where he  
will find papers on file and a useful  
library.On Thursday, July 8th, 1915, our  
half-yearly business meeting took  
place. The principal officers for the  
coming half-year are as follows: Sec-  
retary-Treasurer, T. W. Lawrence;  
Trustees, F. W. Woolf and Worfolk;  
Corresponding Secretary, F. W. Ran-  
dell; Literature Secretary, F. W. Far-  
rell; Librarian, F. W. Johnson.Local No. 8 is in a healthy condi-  
tion, and is slowly but surely making  
itself felt in Melbourne.

N.R.

## NOTES.

Daily Press—"The war will be over  
in October." "Two Many councillors  
are trying to join the Expeditionary  
Forces.""Democracy"—and margarine.  
"British Justice"—and margarine.  
"Scraps of paper"—and margarine.  
"Enlightened institutions"—and  
margarine."Our country"—and margarine.  
"Defend your heritage"—and mar-  
garine.Andy Fish-oh had a brick through  
the jaw—billiard room the other day.  
Wonder if it had anything to do with  
the "Tradesmen's Entrance."Readers and members are again  
urged to bustle for subs, and push lit-  
erature among the workers. Everybody  
working means more propaganda. Your  
own Press, and better results. Let's  
hear from you to-day.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

To Direct Action is 2s. per year,  
within Australia; New Zealand 3s.;  
and foreign, 4s. Bundles, 9d. per  
dozen posted.

A. Mack.

For ages the world has sorrowed in  
war. At one period, that usually ter-  
med peace, the workers are warring  
against the master class and against  
the forces of nature for the right to  
live. At other periods, when the com-  
mercial pirates quarrel over the dis-  
tribution of the wealth produced by the  
worker, the workers who had been pre-  
viously fighting the boss element, at  
once forget the struggle and hurry to  
show the world that their group of mas-  
ters is the best, and consequently they  
would rather be slugged by them than  
by any other group. All at once their  
interests become identical, so much so  
that the boss stays away from the war  
line, and extends his energy coaxing  
and cajoling the brainless toiler to don  
the khaki—the insignia of the most  
degraded slavery to which any human  
creature could descend—and race for  
the front to kill or be killed because  
the boss has interests somewhere in  
the struggle.A year ago the war between the  
world's workers and their parasite mas-  
ters was proceeding; and although the  
workers outnumbered the enemy by  
four to one they were being quietly but  
surely killed and beaten and skinned,  
as they have been through the ages.All at once a quarrel arose—a quar-  
rel which had been threatening for  
some years—because the German  
giant, working with the more efficient  
machinery and backed by the force of  
science, had been capturing more than  
his share of the world's markets, thus  
leaving less for the preying insects  
of the other nations. Instantly the  
boneheads of all the groups rush to  
mortal combat, and whooping their war-  
eries and calling on their gods for  
help, proceed to demonstrate that their  
masters are the chosen of the gods and  
the upholders of the best civilisation.The politicians, the men who for  
years have been posing as the friends  
of the propertyless, brainless toiler,  
have had at last to declare their color  
and now take their stand alongside of  
the "tall hat" and fuse their stores of  
trickery in a determined effort to force  
the wage plugs to do the dangerous  
dirty work of murdering the wage-plugs  
of other climes, while the masters and  
the politicians "lounged at ease" and  
wallow in wealth, luxury and safety at  
home.Of course we must fight to preserve  
our country, our homes and our free-  
dom! No other country would advance  
the same freedom! No other country  
possesses a Willie Holman or a Fisher  
or a Hughes! Where would the Aus-  
tralian worker be without such intel-  
lectual giants? Of course they mustn't  
go to the front, we couldn't spare  
them. We need them here to trick us  
and betray us to the master class. We  
are too ignorant to look after ourselves  
and bargain with the boss; only for  
their keen foresight we might before  
now have been foolish enough to argue  
with the boss in terms of bullets in-  
stead of the glorious ballot-box. This  
unholy trinity wouldn't be safe in  
Russia; all the anarchists are there.  
Yes, the working class is too ignorant  
and servile. Centuries of ignorance  
and servility have made us moral and  
servile, and no such class ever rose or  
ever deserves to rise to a position of  
world control. Morality being merely  
the name given by the bourgeois to  
"obedience to the master class code of  
behaviour," it follows that any per-  
son breaking this code is dangerous to  
society, and is consequently not res-  
pectable.Every master class has its own par-  
ticular system of morals to harmonise  
with the economic needs of the time,  
and for the benefit of the group in the  
saddle.The great mass of the proletariat,  
which is always howling about their  
glorious freedom, only imagine they  
are free because they conform to the  
rulers' demands as easily as a child  
takes milk; most of this "great major-  
ity" would imagine themselves free  
even in chattel slavery because being a  
spiritless, brainless mob, they would  
conform to that state of things without  
any effort or struggle.The plutocrats are never tired calling  
our attention to the fake that we en-  
joy the greatest freedom under the  
sun. The plutocrats of Germany, of  
France, of Russia, and of all the oth-  
er nations calls the same tune to their  
duped workers and these workers al-  
ways dance.Reeves and Sawtell have addressed  
splendid meetings here. Literature  
sales have been records for here.The local miners award falls due next  
year, 1916, and surely with all the  
industrial union "propaganda" and  
I.W.W. literature, the "hoggers" will  
not be content with a 2d. raise in  
wages. The "hoggers" ought to try  
Sabotage, not Arbitration next year.Our local secretary wrote to the  
A.L.F. Council and to some of the big  
unions here, asking that an I.W.W.  
representative be allowed to address  
them on industrial unionism. So far we  
have received four answers and four re-  
fusals. Evidently the "Crafties" are  
afraid of discussion, or have something  
to hide. F. W. Reeves sings off the  
box, is a great draw. Fellow-work-  
ers, you are wanted at all the meet-  
ings of the Local.

M. SAWTELL.

## BOULDER.

ACTIVITIES OF LOCAL NO. 6.  
HALL, LANE-ST., BOULDER,  
W.A.Wednesday evenings, in Hall,  
class meeting.Friday evening, Boulder Post  
Office, propaganda meeting.Saturday evening, Kalgoorlie,  
propaganda meeting.Sunday morning, 10.30 a.m.,  
Hall, business meeting.Sunday afternoon, Keane's Gold-  
fields Hotel, Athletic Club, at 2.30,  
lecture.Sunday evening, Boulder, propa-  
ganda meeting.Good library at Hall. All Red  
are invited to dig in and make In-  
dustrial Unionism the topic of the  
day.

E. CHRISTENSEN.

How well they have learned that the  
worker is not a thinking but a believ-  
ing beast. (Is it any wonder that the  
man with the rich uncle in Fiji was  
all the time?)For years our political shysters have  
been drumming into our numbed brains  
that it is not right to fight for our-  
selves, against the masters, with any-  
thing but the ballot box.We wanted to be good and respect-  
able, our cause was not important  
enough to spill one drop of blood over,  
besides it's nice to be thought respect-  
able by the big unthinking majority.The sincere Revolutionist doesn't  
waste time on such trifles; of course  
there are some alleged Revolutionists,  
those of the bourgeois mind, those of  
the opportunist make up, those who  
have brought their "Doll's House" with  
them up to the ranks of the advancing  
Proletariat, who would rather anything  
than that they be charged with being  
"Not respectable." Their war whoop  
is still, "We must fight with bullets  
not bullets" for the overthrow of  
wage slavery. After all the lessons of  
the past and present, any such state-  
ment should, in the future, be definite  
evidence that the speaker is a "shut-  
ter." In one breath he tells us that  
"the workers must be emancipated by  
their own efforts," and in the next he  
says, "leave your fate to me and my  
party, we will emancipate you, no one  
else can or will." In these straps  
contradictions there hides the spirit of  
the opportunist. Dragging our slug-  
gish minds across the last decade we  
can picture again the fakirs we have  
seen, always with their warning plu-  
titude, "bullets not bullets."Ten thousand times have we heard  
that cry hurled at the workers of this  
land by every brand of professional and  
aspiring politician.Once again we note where these fakirs  
stand. It is ballots when fighting the  
master class, but bullets when fighting  
for the master class.It is "shoot to kill" when fighting  
our fellow workers in the interests of  
the capitalists; but no shooting at all  
when fighting for ourselves. Perhaps,  
soon, the worker will know where to  
point his rifle, and when he knows that  
wage slavery will come to an end.  
When he is wise enough to know that  
he will also be wise enough to know  
that it matters not to the worker what  
group of capitalists waves their flag  
over his head. He will be wise enough  
to know that a country hoping to suc-  
ceed in the world's markets must free  
the wage slave and more free dom,  
as that wage slave group rises in the  
scale of consciousness. When he  
knows this he will be wise enough and  
ready to overthrow capitalism, and set  
up the Industrial Republic, where war,  
fifth and starvation will not be the lot  
of the worker, and wherein will be no  
resting place for the fakir politician.



# Murder Will Out. More Food For Powder.

By Ajax.

For some time past there has been an incessant howl from pulpit, press, and platform for more men for murder. The moloeh of militarism with insatiable greed repeatedly calls for slaughter. For some weeks there has been a campaign of abuse against shirkers and single men. Of course this is directed solely against the poor. Society snob and aristocratic shirkers, with few exceptions, take no notice of the country's need. This opprobrium and abuse is levelled at the worker, not at the real shirker.

In an article entitled "Single Men to the Front," printed in June 1st issue of "Direct Action," the author endeavoured to show the sordid reasons of the attack on single men. Briefly, they are financial, political and social, and have nothing to do with national honor, Christian civilisation and Prussian militarism, as the press would have us believe. Not only has a slanderous campaign against single men been carried on everywhere in public, but privately economic and social pressure has been used in many cases to force men to the trenches.

Now we are to have a male registration (one may as well take out a dog license while at it) clearly for the purpose of conscription. Indeed this move is but an insidious attempt to follow up the child conscription crime and rush the country into militarism.

Even looking at this question from a conservative standpoint, what grounds have we for believing that "more men" will decide and finish the war? So far brains and machinery dominate the position. If statistics are any guide, the Allies long before this should be able to maintain a distinct and increasing superiority of men on all fronts with the possible exception of Gallipoli. France and Belgium are a match for Germany, while Russia and Serbia are too strong for Austria. England is reported to have sent a huge army to France. Further if the reports of German and Austrian losses printed in our press are anywhere near the truth, the Allies should be well into Germany. In the early stages the plucky press kept barking about the Russian sledge-hammer breaking through to Berlin. We were also told that Germany was short of copper, food, finance and what not, while Austria was already beaten. Of course our respectable press has never been known to tell a lie (they have no interest in deceiving people). We must presume that the Russian sledge-hammer took the strong road and got lost in Galicia.

Last year Italy, with an army of three million took the field, and the English colonial contingents have now reached the theatre of war, and we are told that Turkey is nearly done, yet still the cry "More Men" is reiterated from press and pulpit. Labor men now witness the spectacle of the Premier, who once preached anti-militarism and socialism, writing jingo letters daily to the press.

It is quite on the cards that England is pursuing the same policy adopted in former continental wars, endeavouring to hold the balance of power while her Allies exhaust themselves in the struggle. In spite of the copious tears shed over Belgium, so far no attempt has been made to drive the Germans out of Flanders. Indeed, it is an open question whether the census business is not purely an effort to force conscription to defend the interests of foreign financiers here against the people and to crush the labor movement.

We are repeatedly told "The Country calls you." So far the country has not spoken; if anything, the land is inviting the people to cultivate it and enjoy in peace the fruits of nature unmindful of the mouthings of war mongers. Neither have the people spoken. They were never consulted about the matter, they are not asked about this registration law, and it is highly unlikely that Australia will be consulted about peace, despite the talk of an empire conference. From Mr. Fisher's remarks it is clear that, without their authority, he has pledged Australia to the last man and the last shilling. This phrase, "the country calls you," is glaringly absurd when we reflect that it is only the bunkies of plutocracy that hypocritically profess to speak in the name of the country. Besides they fail to show how Australia will benefit by sending the flower of its manhood to be slaughtered in Europe. Whoever wins makes precious little difference, after all it is only a scrap between traders. The probability is that the money kings will order the ambassadors to patch up a peace irrespective of national sentiment, religion or treaties. Meanwhile the workers here are shipping food and meat out of the country, regardless of the consequences.

Already there is talk of scarcity of food, margarine and soap are replacing butter, other edibles are deteriorating in quality, and according to the Government statistician, the price of food has increased over 17 per cent. since the war. Against this, the crowd who are anxious for the wholesale murder of single men have advanced only one palliative. "We must economise." It is highly improbable that these gentry will forgo the smallest luxury for the benefit of empire, which, after all, is only an imaginary geographical expression. This message is for the poor, and should read, "You must economise," that is, be content to put up with a lower subsistence, and at the same time be very liberal with your blood, because, forsooth, "The country calls."

There are several other matters concerning this war which the people have a right to know, and about which politicians are strangely silent.

In particular is there an ominous silence and a lack of logic to explain why single men should be sacrificed. In a former article the author dealt fully with this question. Perhaps a quotation from that essay is not out of place: "Although there has been much patriotic piffle lavished on the new gospel, as yet no logical reason has been advanced why single men should be sacrificed. Every single man SHOULD INSIST ON A VALID REASON before answering the call."

We have already seen that from a conservative standpoint the call for "more men" requires a good deal of explanation. Moreover, it is as well to remind platform patriots that even if physically unfit, married, or aged, there is a way of getting to the front if they are anxious to go. Indeed, we venture to think it would be far more patriotic and much more manly, if these gentry, instead of cowardly attacking ignorant and small sections of people, such as the newspaper boys, the alleged loafer, or the conscript (who have no chance to reply) be to volunteer to stand in the front rank so that by their eloquent example they might make heroes of men.

It is a peculiar fact that the people who howl most for conscription are exempt from military service under the Defence Act. Even if some of these patriotic patriots cannot get to the front they could at least take a turn working in munition factories. Surely these bourgeoisie gentry, who, during peace, tell us to "increase, multiply, and replenish the earth," do not wish to see our women, whose natural function is to produce life so degenerated that they should spend their time making munitions to murder the men. Is it possible that these people realise that when they yell "more men" that they are deprecating the birth, destroying the home, and breaking the sanctity of the marriage tie? Not so long ago the same crowd preached industrial peace (which means freedom to exploit), but the moment there is a chance to grab some trade or colonies immediately the dogs of war are let loose. Christ, morality, law, and progress are thrown to the winds. A campaign of racial hatred and jingoism is started, and the moment that fails a further scheme of calumny against the so-called shirker is entered upon.

The early excitement of the war has worn off, and people have had time to consider this matter without prejudice. As far as the single men are concerned, the point is that under pretence of crushing German militarism they are liable to be crushed with a form of Prussian militarism labelled national defence.

Even from a conservative standpoint, considering its position, wealth, population, and other factors, Australia is already over militarised. She has sent proportionately more men to the front than any colony. From a revolutionary outlook the whole business, from the Belgium bungle to the Federal registration, won't bear a superficial analysis. Its simply a case of confusion worse confounded.

Meanwhile prices rise, food deteriorates, taxation increases, jobs decrease, and the new law threatens the liberty (what little there is of it) of the individual. It is high time the labor organisations and people opposed to conscription took the matter into their own hands. Too long have they followed "Lead

# The Primal Lure and Parsons.

Brisbane.

## THE PRIMAL LURE—AND PARSONS.

For the past few years a large and staring placard has been conspicuously displayed on the metropolitan railway stations of this State. This word product or woe-wearer is intended for female consumption, and is as follows:—

## "ADVICE TO STRANGERS."

- (1) Never ask the way of policemen or railway officials.
- (2) Never go home with, or assist, a woman who appears to be in a faint, leave the case to a policeman.
- (3) Never accept a lift in a motor, cab or other vehicle.
- (4) Never accept food, sweets or drinks from a stranger, or go with anyone, however dressed, who brings you a story that any relative or friend has met with an accident, or been taken suddenly ill; as this is a common device to entrap girls.
- (5) Never accept a situation without making strict enquiries, and never go to town, even for a night, without arranging for a safe lodging.
- (6) Never enter a house, a place of amusement, or go to an address without letting some-trusted person know where you are going.

All girls in difficulty or danger should apply to the Christian Temperance Union, The Girl's Friendly Society, Children's Protection Society, or the Salvation Army.

Interesting mainly as showing the state of mind of the sex-pervers who tender the advice. Advice, it will be noted, intended solely for the weaker sex. No normal human animal approaching the nubile age escapes the clamant call of sex. And sex, or mate-hunger, is every whit as insistent as food-hunger. These two primal instincts dominate life, and every human action can be traced back to either the cravings of sex or the desire for food. The ruling class have invented a religion, created laws, and built up a social system which renders it a matter of impossibility—to all but the favoured few—to satisfy the food hunger, except by work; or theft. Not content with the almost faultless system of exploitation by means of which one of the primal instincts of mankind is used to scourge the worker from early manhood to doddering senility, the pimps of plutocracy would, and they could, force firmer fetters on their slaves by establishing a monopoly of marriageable females, and holding out the joys of love as an incentive to increased exertions on the part of the male worker. When reaching out after cash no weapon comes amiss to the hand of the pornic psalm-singer. Murder, treachery, lust or robbery—it's all one to Holy Joe.

But the male working animal has a vague feeling that there is something wrong somewhere, and is beginning to ask more and more insistently—Why should I accept your teachings, you who profess to follow the Man of Peace, and grow hysterical while urging me and my class to go forth and kill. To slay and spare not. To slay co-religionists and fellow-workers. The class you represent possess all the good things of this earth. Ample leisure, the best food, the choice of women, and palatial homes. What your class does not want I can have—if I work the greater part of my waking life. You promise rewards in this world and the next for meekness, humility, faith, and all the meaner virtues.

Yet you uphold, in pulpit and press, a system which rewards the worker's wife, as the price of her virtue, with sixteen hours household drudgery daily, and for seven days a week. One whose teachings you profess to follow said: "Suffer little children to come unto Me." They will not find Him in the gutter, yet it is the only place that the rapacity of your rent-hungry friends has left the worker's child as a play-ground.

Why should I fear your ecclesiastic thunders, or dread your denunciations, when at the bidding of the ruling class you ignore the age-long traditions of your church and brush aside all things of no account the chastity of women and the sanctity of marriage.

Shall your sycophantic snuffe about the sacred bonds of matrimony arouse any feeling except derision when you are striving strenuously to legitimate bastardy? How am I to construe chastity when with conspicuous craft you select the most desirable females of your flock and send them out into the highways and byways to cadge the wherewithal to salve the sores of the system you uphold.

With studied salacity you titillate the carnal appetite of men for a cash consideration. The cajolers of your charming collectors are never practised on their own sex. Your prurient mind impels you to use the bloom of virginity, the dainty feminine charms of maidenhood, the bright eyes of beauty, and the lure of soft white flesh to cash the cash from the pockets of susceptible males. The detaining claw of an ill-favoured female with a wart on her nose merely irritates the average man, and her bony hand rattles the collection-box in vain, while the soft white hand laid appealingly on the coat-sleeve, the bright beseeching eye, and the suggestive mock-modesty of the desirable damsel rarely fails to increase the weight of her collection box. Wise with the wisdom of the ages, a wisdom which is woman's most potent inheritance, not even by the exercise of the most wily sophistry can you blind her eyes to the fact that her appeal is to the bodily eye alone. The solicited one knows little, and cares less, about the ultimate destination of the cash. He knows that she is a desirable bundle of femininity, and human hearts throb hotly and human passions are held in leash by gossamer threads. The average man can no more resist the suggestive seductiveness of the soliciting Circe than a bull-terrier can pass a dog-fight without chipping in. You encourage specialism in enticement, you applaud the use of wiles practiced by the painted prostitute that your seductive supplicants may arouse the sexual passions and draw their dainty bow across the heart-strings of men to gratify the avarice of your church. And yet, most pious pimp, you are fully aware that the majority of men who succumb to the charms of the salacious sirens you employ are condemned by the system you uphold to work the greater part of a day for the privilege of patronising a brothel.

But why this solicitude on behalf of the lone unattached female? Must she "fall" according to rules prescribed by the church? Perhaps, most holy humbug, you harbor the impression that a nubile girl who is as yet uncontaminated by association with lecherous lazars of your type is not aware that under the present social system she possesses a marketable commodity. Pray, most pious panderer, pray, enlighten her. Teach her the value of her physical charms, and instruct her in the urgencies of instinct. Freeze out from her heart the unestimable gifts of womanhood. Pudicity has no commercial value, it is merely an outworn superstition. Teach her to cozen like a courtesan, to sue like a strumpet, to wheedle like a whore, and to hold the arts of harlotry as a necessary and attractive attribute of maidenhood.

And while congratulating you on your successful effort to destroy the ridiculous marriage superstition, and your eager approval of Free Love, could you, not, most holy whoremaster, while you are demolishing the hoary traditions and revising the legendary ritual of your creed to suit the altered conditions, could you not, to prevent a too frequent revision, which tends to weaken the faith of the orthodox, invent a decree or dispensation to remove the regrettable prejudice against incest, sodomy, and child-violation. Never, most righteous runnion, never make two bites of a cherry.

FLANEUR.

kindly lighters" and militarists. It will soon become a question not so much as what do you think about it? But rather, what are YOU going to do?

It is said that "silence implies consent." That is a maxim that governments have always accepted. If no protest is made, nothing attempted, and single men go like sheep to the slaughter, there is no knowing where this "more men" business will end.

One distressing feature of this war is the fearful mental prostitution we see on every side, sometimes by men who in the past were thought to be above it. Indeed, no longer can press, parliament, or pulpit be trusted. The single men will have to fight for their own freedom. The enemy is here, not in Austria. The cause is real, not imaginary geographical expressions. The real cry should be "Men wanted to fight for freedom," not "More men for murder."

In the babble of bourgeoisie blather and the ravings of war mongers, we are apt to forget that

"Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty."

A typographical error, crept into last issue's notes: "Several deluded defenders of capitalism . . . seemed to think that the 'boss' kept the capitalist, instead of it being the other way around." The word "capitalist" should read "worker." Others who were left debating the point might have had something to argue about.

It would seem that the writer of these notes has inadvertently done the Labour Party an injustice. Since forwarding last "copy" pressure has evidently been brought to bear upon Prince Cahill, for his gracious permission has been accorded to a local section of the political working-class party to hold an open-air propaganda-meeting on Sunday afternoon. To celebrate this auspicious concession (the site of the proposed meeting is a "dead-end" corner, where nobody goes), a combined meeting of the I.W.W. and A.S.P. has been arranged. I am informed, however, that the Cabinet have under consideration the setting aside (as in Sydney) of certain areas in the public gardens for outdoor propaganda work. With these stirring evidences of public progress before us, we shall soon be able to say to the workers, in the words of the poet:

"Rise ere the dawn is risen,  
Come and be all souls fed;  
From field and street and prison  
Wake, for the night is dead."

Brisbane activities have been well sustained of late. A goodly company listened with exemplary patience to the writer of these notes, as he endeavored to give a resume of Nilsson's fine pamphlet, "Political Socialism," pointing out the absurdity of "revolution" by legal methods. Animated discussion followed, and great interest was manifested.

On the "stamp" we have been assiduous in putting forward the necessity on the part of the workers for organisation on industrial union lines. In spite of the fact that several speakers have been removed through economic exigencies the red flag of revolution has been kept flying. Fellow-worker Raison, while here, did splendid work by familiarising the crowd with the principles set forth in our "Preamble."

Our speakers consistently, and I think rightly, kept off the subject of the war. To criticise militarism and war at the present juncture, when the mind of the mob is aflame with military hysteria, is to my thinking a waste of time. We admire the courage of the local A.S.P., but cannot praise their judgment.

One of the most militant of the craft unions in this city seems to be the Progressive Society of Carpenters. I understand they have over 700 members, and recently they passed resolutions against Conscription, declaring that there was too much militarism in Australia. It is a pity that with this progressive spirit they do not see the vital necessity of Industrial Union organisation to preserve working class autonomy.

The promised debate with the local A.S.P. has not yet eventuated, owing to some disagreement as to the subject of the debate. The A.S.P. wished the topic to be: Parliamentary action and Industrial Unionism v. Industrial Unionism alone. This was considered a quibble, as Parliamentary action and Industrial Unionism cannot be considered in the same relationship. Further amendments have been submitted, however, and in the near future the dialectical and rhetorical clash of arms may be confidently awaited.

Yours for the O.B.U.

A. E. BROWN,

Cor. Sec.

## DEFINITIONS.

If you're rich—kleptomaniac; if you're a bonehead worker—shabog; if you're an intelligent worker—shabog.

## THE PATRIOTS.

The A.W.U. has sent 20 per cent. of its members to the front, the N.S.W. Parliament over 2 per cent., the Chamber of Commerce 2 per cent. Hip, hip.

Meredith Atkinson is killing kulter at home.

## I.W.W. RECRUITING POSTERS.

Large posters in black and white as follows: "Employers of Australia, YOUR country needs YOU in the trenches! Join to-day!" Two bob a hundred posted.



