

Shorter Hours and Slower Work mean Longer Pay.

DIRECT ACTION

VOL. 2 NO. 36.

Registered at G.P.O.

Sydney.

SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1915.

ONE PENNY

Successful Strike in Japan.

In Nagoya a couple of months ago the Tramways Company decided to increase its fares. Before decision was put into operation, however, the newspapers made hostile criticisms, and the people everywhere held protest meetings; on an appointed day the whole adult population of the town met in the public park, when more than ten thousand people assembled. Three decisions were arrived at, namely, that the fares be not increased, that the company provide workmen's cars at half rates, and that the company provide more comfort in the cars. So strong was feeling running that scarcely had the meeting terminated than a riot occurred. The police were absolutely powerless to do anything; one section of the rioters smashed a number of cars, while another went to the barn and smashed the windows, etc.; yet another section reduced the district police station to a mass of ruins, whilst another crowd destroyed the head office of the company. On the following day the crowd attacked the company director's private house, and had a desperate go with the police. During the night could be heard shouting and shooting till half past ten, when the military cleared the streets. The third day the rioters set fire to the houses of all the chief officers of the company, when they were once more driven off by the military; on the same day, however, another police station was reduced to ruins. On the fourth day, things quietened somewhat, but during the night, just as the crowd was about to finish the manager's house, the military again drove them off. On the next morning, thinking there would be no further protests from the populace, the company started running the cars again, but this only made the people more determined than ever, who immediately met in a theatre, and decided that they would not allow the cars to run until the fares were reduced, and that they would destroy the whole outfit, track, power station, barn, etc. The company immediately backed down, and the fares were, and still are, as before. During the four days' argument many policemen and officers were killed and injured, likewise some of the protesting ones.—Translated by P. England.

THE MIRACLE OF THE DOG'S TAIL.

Once upon a time, in the State of Vermont, there lived two peddlers of two different brands of salve. Both of these peddlers loudly proclaimed that his particular make of salve was the most wonderful salve in all creation.

One day, in the market place of a small village, one of the peddlers, who owned a dog, cut off a piece of his dog's tail, and, in order to show the marvellous efficacy of his salve, applied some of it to the stump of his dog's tail; with the effect that the dog immediately grew his tail on again.

Did the other peddler pack his grip and light out for parts unknown? Not much.

He picked up the piece of the tail that his rival had cut from his dog, applied some of his salve to the raw end of it, and immediately the piece of tail grew another dog.

Then arose a dispute between the two peddlers as to who owned the dog that had grown on the end of the piece of tail, which was only settled without coming to blows by an angel appearing on the spot, who grabbed both the dogs by the tail and flew away with them.—"The Melting Pot."

Why do the workers take so tamely the slaughter of millions of their class and then break into riot when a few plutocrats meet death in the hall they have made in this fair and smiling world?



The New International

WHAT IS SABOTAGE?

During the last few days, the authorities and the press have been making a great noise about "Sabotage." What is Sabotage?

Sabotage is the most misunderstood word in the vocabulary of the working class. Even the Socialist on many occasions side step, and condemn it. Yet Sabotage is a potent, an efficient, and a silent weapon. Every worker should know what it means. There are three pamphlets procurable in Australia on "Sabotage."

"Sabotage," by Emile Pouget, of the Confederation General du Travail, costs 1/1 post paid.

"Sabotage," by Walker C. Smith, the editor of the "Industrial Worker" costs 4d. post paid.

"Sabotage," by Elisabeth Gurley Flynn costs 4d. post free.

The three will be sent post free for 1/6 by the Literature Secretary, I.W.W., Box 98, Haymarket, N.S.W.

SHADES OF JUDAS ISCARIOT.

British Democracy versus German Barbarity. Which side are you on? In the struggle which must mean the triumph of one or the other, are you content to be an indifferent onlooker?

If not, JOIN THE FELLOWSHIP (!) COMPANY now being organised and fight side by side with SOCIALIST COMRADES. Particulars from J. Hunter Watts, O/o Clarion Cafe, 50a Market Street, Manchester.—"The Clarion."

The Editor "Direct Action."

Fellow-worker,—Per medium of "Direct Action" insert this motion passed at a fully representative gathering of the Boulder Local, No. 6, of the I.W.W., duly moved, seconded, and carried.

"We demand, in the name of the working-class, a fresh and impartial trial of our fellow-worker, Joe Hill, now lying in Salt Lake City jail, Utah, and incarcerated at the behest of the capitalist-class of America, for a crime of which he is entirely innocent. Until this request for a new trial is granted, we, the working-class of Australia will institute boycott of all American goods."

Workers of Australia, take notice! (Sgd.) M. SAWTELL, Sec., Treas., Local No. 6, Boulder, W.A.

Now that the winter is over, and the worst season is passed, it is up to the organisation to clear off the forty pounds owing on the Press. We have made phenomenal progress in the past twelve months, but we can do better. "Direct Action" has made a host of sterling friends. We want to see the circulation on the 5000 mark. Now, boys, let us see what we can do with the debt and the circulation in the next few months.

A thousand subs. means a weekly "Direct Action."

BRISBANE.

It is coming, it is coming. Falling crown and crashing throne; And the workers march in triumph, Take possession of their own.

Poets are usually optimistic. It must be consoling to the capitalist class of Queensland to know that workers here have no intention at present of taking possession of their own. Things are not too good just now. Work is scarce, and many are being forced at the point of starvation to enlist, which is perhaps what is intended. Some of our fellow workers have gone North to the sugar. Consequently we have lost several able speakers. Our Sunday evening lectures are being temporarily suspended in favour of the Anti-Conscription meetings held in the Trades Hall. Good attendances are the rule, and strong feeling is manifest in Labor circles generally against any attempt to force an alteration of the constitution in favour of the master class.

I.W.W. posters and stickers are being put to good use. Fine work is being done by general and literature secretaries. So far Local No. 7 has certainly justified its existence.

With the coming of better times we hope to extend our influence, and in spite of the fact of the workers being bulldozed by the A.W.U., make them perceive the vital necessity of industrial organisation on the lines we recommend. Yours for the O.B.U.,

A. R. BROWN.

"Workers of all countries, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains, you have a world to gain."—Marx.

The Crisis and the Individual.

It is rarely that an I.W.W. open air propaganda meeting passes at the present time without some individual shooting off at a speaker the question: "Why don't you go to the front?"

No matter how far removed the subject under consideration may be from the subject of the present international crisis the inevitable question is sure to make its appearance.

When one politely enquires why our interrogator does not precipitate himself in the direction of the imminent deadly breach (instead of disturbing meetings held under Government authority) one generally finds that he considers himself too old or too young or too fat, or too lean, as the case may be.

It might be thought that motives of delicacy would prevent anyone urging others to a service of danger which he is not willing or capable to undertake himself, but interjectors of this sort are not greatly troubled by motives of delicacy.

Many working men doubtless sincerely believe that the present international conflict is being waged in the interests of British freedom against Prussian autocracy.

Such men have a perfect right to go to the front in behalf of their belief. No member of the I.W.W. seeks to prevent them exercising that right.

But such men and their supporters have no right to come along and try to bully and dragoon and intimidate and Prussianise members of the working class whose convictions on the above point may not be perhaps quite so strong as their own.

Such an intolerant attitude on their part is like a man who should say: I am working for Mr. So-and-so on scab wages, and you must work for him too. Nay, these warlocks show a more colossal impudence than that would be for they say in effect: I do not myself propose to work for Mr. So-and-so, but you must work for him.

Class conscious Industrialists do not readily forget that in Queensland a few members of a working class party recently suffered collectively over two years' imprisonment for daring to exercise a right of free speech enjoyed by religious denominations. In N.S. Wales also many attempts have been made to suppress freedom of speech. Unionists have been fined and imprisoned for asserting their right to cease work. Savage and vindictive punishments are continually being inflicted on the defenceless poor for trifling offences arising out of their poverty—poverty which those who inflict the punishments are quite too incompetent to remove.

With no desire to dictate in any way to fellow workers the writer would strongly urge I.W.W. speakers to adhere firmly on the stump to the subject of Industrial Unionism, for when workers are organised industrially throughout the world capitalist wars will be things of the past.

With conscription looming in view, and compulsory industrial service threatening we are rapidly approaching chattel slavery. Industrial Unionism alone can save us. It is to be the great bulwark of the working class. Verbal criticism of wars and war makers cuts no ice. Organising workers industrially and educating vigorously to that end is the thing that counts. In this respect the longest way round may be said to be the shortest way home. As the poet says:—"It is the Union, Industrial Union, Our banner is unfurled, We will unite, in all our splendid might, In the Industrial Workers of the World."

We have a union, a fighting union.

Our masters know that too: It will keep them in their place When they know they have to face One union of working men that's true."

Direct Action

Asiticklethmyfancy

N. Z. Troubles.

Great Discovery.

American Notes.



OFFICIAL ORGAN

Of the

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF
THE WORLD.

(Australian Administration).

Office—330 Castlereagh St., Sydney
Australia.

EDITOR: TOM BARKER.

MANAGER: E. A. GIFFNEY.

Matter for publication only should be
addressed to the Editor. Other matter
to the Manager.

Subscription, 2/- per year. Special
Terms on Bundle Orders.

HEADQUARTERS I.W.W. (Australia):
330 CASTLEREAGH ST., SYDNEY.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS—

104 W. Washington St., Chicago,
Ill., U.S.A.

Organisation News

We are very pleased to announce
that it is quite on the boards that
several new locals of the I.W.W. will
be formed in various parts of Queens-
land within the next month or so. The
propaganda in the sugar fields and
mills of the North is beginning to have
a very marked effect.

The failure of the existing unions
and their officials to deal with the
rapidly changing conditions is one of
the most potent facts in explaining the
great and growing interest displayed
in the newer and modern unionism of
the Industrial Workers of the World.

In order to explain the efficacy of
the New Unionism more fully, the
Press Committee are issuing Alex.
George's splendid article on "Why the
A.W.U. Cannot Become an Industrial
Union" in pamphlet form. As a fitting
explanation of the I.W.W., in the
same pamphlet they are closing it with
B. H. Williams' "Constructive Pro-
gramme of the I.W.W." These
pamphlets will be off within the month.
They will consist of 24 pages, be nicely
got up, and sell at 3d. each. The
usual discounts will be made for locals
and members taking a dozen or more.

In the United States the Federation
of Russian workers is strongly inclined
towards the principles of the Indus-
trial Workers of the World. Their
paper, "Golos Truda," published in
New York, commends the I.W.W., and
therefore all members of the I.W.W.
coming in contact with Russian fel-
low workers should bring the paper
before them. In general parts of Aus-
tralia among the Russian groups there
is a decided tendency towards the One
Big Union idea. Any Russian fellow
worker desiring "Golos Truda" or
Russian literature, can obtain particu-
lars of same from J. Fagin, Box 98,
Haymarket, Sydney, N.S.W.

In the reports from West Australia,
it seems that the I.W.W. members have
been doing very good work among the
Italian and Slav members of the
working class. As the sign that the
I.W.W. is doing good work, the Labor
Federation in the West has started to
publish matter in Italian, being under
the impression that if they don't wake
up that the I.W.W. will organise the
Italians. The Labor Federation, with
its childish belief in Arbitration, how-
ever, is too late in the day. The
I.W.W. is in the West for good, for
it is already meeting with a hearty
reception from the workers whom at one
time were despised and persecuted by
the very men who to-day are evidently
anxious to collect their dues, if not to

By Ajax.

We hear much concerning efficiency
from the lower orders, but not a whip-
per anent maladministration from
above, indeed legislatures seem more
concerned coercing individuals than the
administration of things.

Capitalism has produced an individ-
ual type supposed to be the beau
ideal of to-day. This abortion called a
captain of industry is bodily far in-
ferior to the ancient warrior chief.
Socially he is of less importance than
the feudal baron. Mentally he is not
an intellectual. In every respect he
compares unfavourably with the rulers
of the past. Even the masses who ac-
quiesce in the domination of a superior
individual instinctively surmise this
modern type fails to fit the bill. Even
the workman sees that the capitalist
owes his position to wealth and oppor-
tunity. Moreover, financiers belong to
an effete and declining class.

Notice how hysterical the commercial
press becomes over a few hundred
soldiers lost in battle, yet not a word
is said ament the millions crippled or
killed annually in the industrial arena.

Much sentimentalism and talk of re-
form has been lavished on the factory
hands. All sorts of palliatives, includ-
ing sanitation, inspection, regulation,
limitation and what not. This question
of the factory system is really very
simple. The capitalist class saw that
there was great profit in this enter-
prise, howbeit the system is really not
necessary to society and the poorer
classes objected strongly to the sweat-
shops. The capitalists, however, "will-
ed it" and enforced it, irrespective of
the disease, misery and death of the
slave class. The factory system will
go when the slave class will it." They
now have the power, but as yet
hardly wish it, let alone will the fac-
tory system be destroyed.

When serfdom was in vogue, priests
agreed that that society was pre-
ordained by the Almighty. They bitterly
denounced the reformers until Feudal-
ism became a fact. The church sud-
denly discovered that the new order
was just that state of society God de-
sired. On the fall of Feudalism the
clergy were denouncing and persecut-
ing the pioneers of capitalism. Where-
ever capitalism triumphed priests pro-
fessed to see in this change the will of
Providence. The clergy, as they had
previously hastened to the castle, now
rushed into the sweatshops with the
cross, proclaiming divine sanction.
Thus we see that spiritual ends give
way to economic needs. It was an eco-
nomic necessity for the priest caste to
how to the strongest class.

Let us glance at this question of a
deity—'tis but a trifle. God exists as
an idea not a scientific fact. Every-
thing in the universe is indestructible
and uncreatable, all universal transfor-
mation of substance. There is a psy-
chological reason for a deity, ignor-
ance and fear. There is also a strong
economic excuse for God. This idea of
a supreme ruler is the personification
of authority and tyranny. God (or the
idea) was and still is an aid to ex-
ploitation. Without the hope or fear of
God the masses could not have passively
endured so much misery. The idea of
God therefore is still maintained
despite the advance of science, be-
cause God is economically useful to the
priest class and ruling caste.

The political maniac is even more ab-
surd than the religious. Yet the for-
mer often prides himself that he is in-
tellectually superior to the latter. He
discards his religious belief for a polit-
ical one, that is, he mentally floun-
ders out of one superstition into an-
other.

The political system is really an ex-
tension of the same idea upon which
the religious cult is based.

Society advances faster than concep-
tions. The economic evolution changes
so rapidly that advanced thinkers find
a difficulty in keeping pace mentally
with the machine. Ideas discarded as
superstition three centuries ago are
still acceptable to the herd, whose
brains, trained for ages to accept in
implicit faith a mass of idiocy and lies,
still cling to antiquated superstitions.

There is much railing against the
oppression and tyranny of capitalists,
yet few workers realise that it is their
own ignorance that oppresses them.
No class could exploit them if they
were not ignorant.

Fellow worker! we want sub-

At the annual meeting of the Auck-
land District Employers' Association,
the president, Mr. E. A. Craig, during
his address stated that "business dur-
ing the past twelve months has been
very poor. In fact some businesses
are being run at a loss. We have been
hampered in our operations by a band
of organised syndicalists, who openly
advocate scientific sabotage as a
weapon of the militant minority."

So, it appears that after all the
trouble that the Association took to
rid N.Z. of the I.W.W., and introduce
—with the aid of the Social Democratic
politicians and their paper the "Maori-
land Worker"—the Workers' Educa-
tional Association with its "scientific
management" and "national effi-
ciency" economics; that there are still
a number, and a growing number at
that, of working men who recognise
that every means is justifiable, and im-
perative in dealing with the masters
of bread.

During the big strike of 1913, many
acts of sabotage took place. Some of
them—were done by the workers and
some by the "law abiding" Employers'
Association. The strikers in Wellin-
gton were constantly deluded by the
Press into the belief that, in Auck-
land and other centres that the strik-
ers' ranks were broken, and that they
were rushing back to work. The same
lying yarns were used in Auckland, re-
Wellington. And thus the boss got in
his sabotaged reports, which had a
good deal to do with the breaking of
the strike.

Then there came the lengthy sen-
tences inflicted upon strikers based on
trivial charges, and even more trivial
and flimsy evidence, by that benevolent
old justice (F) merchant, Sir Robert
Stout; the bawling of workers by pin-
headed cockies; and then the resultant
victimisation on the waterfronts by the
employers stand out as samples of sabo-
tage on the part of the employers of
N.Z. and their lickspittles lackies.

The victimisation and some trumped-
up vagrancy charges resulted in a dis-
cussion at the July Conference of the
Trades Unions held in Wellington. The
usual cap in hand deputations wended
their way to see Mr. Massey, and im-
plore for something that they are too
unorganised to take. No wonder the
Massey Government laugh at the
confiding and trusting nature of the
N.Z. unionist. Kicked from Massey's
presence a dozen times already, they
again adopt a diplomatic manner, to
be rewarded with the usual platitudes.
"Oh, ye burnt out cinders of men."

At the Conference, however, one of
the delegates explained how the situa-
tion could be met. Mr. Geo. Glover, of
the W.W.U., advocated an immediate
reduction of the output, which, he
stated, would soon result in compelling
the employers to drop the whip of
victimisation. But to expect S.D. poli-
ticians, respectable craft union offi-
cials, J.P.'s, M.P.'s, and W.B.A.
"efficiency" advocates to stand for
such a simple and direct method of
dealing with the employers, would be
like asking the sun to stand still or
Empire Day.

But after studying the actions of the
leaders of the workers, and the re-
marks of Mr. Craig, it is quite evi-
dent that an awakening is taking place
in the minds of the workers in the
Auckland district. The most satisfac-
tory thing is that the propaganda of
sabotage and restricted output, are the
weapons of the intelligent, conscious
minority. The workers of N.Z.
to-morrow, can by intelligent agita-
tion, and subsequent action, compel
their masters to cease victimising their
militant fellow workers of the 1913
strike.

It is interesting to note that the
propaganda of the I.W.W. is growing
in Maoriand. It could not be other-
wise. The day of the trade unions,
and the autonomous craft federations
have gone, and all the chin-wagging
of medal ticket experts at conference
will cut no ice. Capitalism cannot be
defeated by platitudes or paper or-
ganisations.

"Instead of bawling for "intelligent"
political action, let there be systematic
propaganda of direct action. The
working class cannot be helped, or or-
ganised, it must help and organise its
own power.

The reduction of the output is the
assertion of a growing, conscious
power, it can cure unemployment, it
can abolish slum life, and long hours.
Even the victimised fighter can get a
job, when his work makes make room
for him. Doesn't it seem childish to
work the victim out of a job, and then
to ask Massey to get him a start.

The I.W.W. is the most talked of
organisation in Australasia. It is
quoted daily in the press. It is de-
nounced, maligned, and attacked. But
it is here to stay.

Sub-Leader in "Argus," 19/8/15.

The police authorities are to be com-
mended for having attempted to dis-
cover who is responsible for the mis-
chievous placard propaganda of the
Independent Workers of the World,
an American anarchist body, which
is seeking to extend its influence to
Australia. All the police can do,
however, is to prosecute for neglect
to affix an imprint to each poster.
There should be means of proceeding
against the responsible persons
which are likely to have a deterrent
effect. It is illegal to use telegraph
posts for bill-sticking, and the city
by-laws also prohibit the disfigure-
ment of the streets in this way. It is
for the authorities to punish per-
sons, if they can be detected, who
are promulgating these abhorrent
doctrines. If action of this kind will
not suffice, it would be well, in the
interests of society, to make a law
to stop the offensive conduct. Free-
dom of speech degenerates into licen-
se when it permits advocacy of the
destruction of the social system.

It appears that the Detective De-
partment in Melbourne is working
overtime these days. After one of the
Pinkertons had made enquiries he as-
tounded the "Argus" by informing it
that a nefarious organisation, the
I.W.W., had arrived in Australia. We
wonder if the "Argus" knows whether
Queen Anne is dead?

Yes, "Ma," the I.W.W. is here!
With both feet. Been here four years,
"Ma." And the detectives never told
you, eh, "Ma?" Nasty things! What
is the country coming to?

After all, it is silly to use "our"
telegraph posts to advocate I.W.W.-
ism, when our old friend "Ma Argus"
will give us half-a-crown a week.

It is quite evident that the "Argus"
(bless the old gin) don't like working
men "slowing down." It must hurt
some of the people upstairs, eh,
"Ma?" Workingmen, take a hint from
"Ma."

"It would be well, in the interests
of society, to make a law to stop this
offensive conduct." What's the use of
laws you can't enforce, "Ma?" The
I.W.W. will carry on this business in
spite of you and the gals. You can't
goad a slave, even in free, democratic
Australia, where a prostitute has a
vote like the editor of the "Argus."

We mustn't advocate the "destruc-
tion of the social system." We should
smile, old hen, we should smile.
A "social system" that implies pov-
erty, squalor, and starvation to the
multitude, luxury and idleness to the
few. A "social system" where men of
brains wallow in apocynaphy and pro-
stitution for glittering baubles proffered
by a rotten and mildewed press! A
"social system" of child laborers,
anemic and consumptive, toiling in
the stifling air of factory prisons,
where the blossoming buds of manhood
and womanhood are stifled by the re-
lentless itching fingers of profit! A
"social system" of hungry and pin-
less unemployed, and bartered flesh
markets on the highways! A "social
system" of "national efficiency" and
margarine! Of crocodile tears and an-
throned rascality. A "social system"
of things and things!

Yea, masters, the I.W.W. would
destroy your "social system." To hell
with your "social system." Listen,
"Argus," and ye masters what Jim
Seymour of the I.W.W. says:

"You laugh at my hands that are dirty
and coarse,
But such are the hands—quite familiar
with force,
And hands that have fed you can
crush you as well,
And throw your damned carcasses clear
into hell."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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

I.W.W. laughs at it's foes. It is
based upon the economic interpreta-
tion of history. Understanding it's
historic mission, it is building up all
over the world, in Australia, New Zea-
land, the U.S.A., China, Britain, Swe-
den, and other countries the force to
overthrow Capitalism.

Let the cap-in-hands bleat, the
Craigs weep, the authorities threaten,
the maggot-brains legislate, and the
sycophants squirm. To the I.W.W.,
militant workers of Australasia! Down
with the power-drunk, gluttonous sys-
tem of Capitalism.

As a result of the application of
direct action in the hopfields and fruit
orchards of California, and the loss
incurred by employers, it is estimated
that Ford and Suhr, who were sent to
Folsom Gaol for a life sentence, will be
released shortly. In the meantime, the
workers of Australia and New Zealand
should maintain a strict boycott on all
American goods until the authorities
release our fellow workers.

The harvest campaign organised by
the Agricultural Workers' Organisation
of the I.W.W. is having a great ef-
fect upon wages and conditions in the
harvest zone. This year the I.W.W.
have gone quietly to work, and then
once on the job, have compelled the
farmers of the wheat States to come
through with all sorts of concessions.
With the coming of the harvest in
Australia, the local organisations will
make strenuous efforts to emulate the
work done by the I.W.W. in America.

During the recent labor troubles in
New Mexico, the authorities inter-
cepted all I.W.W. correspondence, pa-
pers, posters, etc. The local rebels, how-
ever, by the means of stencils, rubber
stamps, and secret methods, flooded
the country with their matter in spite
of all efforts to stop them. "Where
there is a will there is a way!"

Five Locals in the United States are
now taking "Direct Action," viz. Des
Mones, Chicago, Kansas City, San
Francisco, and Rockford.

Members requiring copies of the
"Fifth Birthday" issue of "Solidar-
ity" should write and forward cash im-
mediately. As we have only 1000 cop-
ies coming, most of which are already
ordered, an early order is requested.
Single copies 3d., 12 copies 2/- post
paid.

The I.W.W. are making great strides
with the organisation of the workers
in the munition factories in the United
States. When Labor is efficiently
organised on the lines of the I.W.W.
wars will cease, whether financiers,
magnates and plutocrats need them or
not.

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 Reds
are invited to dig in and make In-
dustrial Unionism the topic of the
day.

E. CHRISTENSEN.

MELBOURNE ACTIVITIES.

Local No. 8, 243 William Street.
Monday, 8 p.m.: Business Meeting.
Thursday: Propaganda Committee
meets.

Friday, 8 p.m.: Propaganda meeting
at South Melbourne Market.

Saturday, 8 p.m.: Educational lecture
in hall.

Sunday, 3 p.m.: Propaganda meeting
at Flinders Park (Yarra Bank).

Library and reading room open every
night. Working-class papers on file.
Industrial Union literature on sale. All
rebels are asked to blow along and
make themselves known. All slaves will
be welcome.

J. LAWRENCE.

Secretary-Treasurer.

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The Growth of the I. W. W. Vicarious Patriotism. Australian Workers Attention! The Modern Huns.

The growing influence of the I.W.W. has been amply demonstrated by the daily press in Australia of late. Every morning and evening paper has had articles or contributions deploring the presence of the I.W.W. in the industries. Some of the silly politicians have gone out on recruiting platforms condemning the I.W.W. As a result of this advertisement the I.W.W. is growing, and it's influence is spreading everywhere.

Yet in spite of all the howls of the prostitutes, the meetings of the One Big Union continue to grow in size, and moreover, in spite of the incitements to hooliganism by the Press and the rest of the flunkies, every meeting is well conducted, and scarcely an interjection is ever heard. More members are joining up daily, and from indications seen, the reaction after the season of artificial patriotism will be followed by a tremendous growth in the I.W.W.

The sustained and energetic propaganda, assisted by the change in conditions must result in a similar change in the opinions and outlook of the working class. The ruling class, blind as the proverbial bat, not realising the tremendous changes, are attempting to use the old method in dealing with the growing and determined power of the working class. But, in spite of threats by petty politicians and renegade turncoats of the type of Black, the Chief Secretary, the I.W.W. is building up its organisation in the very office where Mr. Black sits officiating in the interests of Boodle. Within the last three years, the I.W.W. have honeycombed the railways, the private and national industries, even the Government offices and the Civil Service. The I.W.W. cannot be legislated out of existence, Mr. Black cannot jail it, Mr. Hall cannot indict it; Mr. Fitzgerald cannot make it into a regiment, nor can the pious howlers of the black coats save it from the road; it has chosen to travel.

To-day, the I.W.W. is building up its power in the steel mills at Bethlehem, in the United States, where the warring nations to-day are largely dependent for munitions. With the closing of those mills the war would be hindered. In Vera Cruz, in Mexico, the I.W.W. tied up the town in a general strike because soldiers were quartered in a Labor union hall. In London the I.W.W. held a meeting on the first of May in spite of the authorities.

All over the world, the New is rising predominant to the Old. New conditions beget new ideas. The small middle-class is dying in the midst of the European conflict. Bankruptcy is claiming its toll. The International Plunderbund thrusts its acquisitive fingers on to every corner of the planet's surface. But the same force that gives the power to the masters of bread, will take it from them.

The International Ruling Class derive their power from their control of industry. The I.W.W. is the only real challenge to their overlordship. It is the tangible, concrete expression of revolt against industrial slavery. It is the product of capitalist society, the negative force that will overthrow and destroy it's parent, even as capitalism conquered and overthrew Feudalism.

The I.W.W. Preamble.

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

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

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

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

A valiant man
Ought not to undergo or tempt a danger,
But worthily, and by selected ways.
BEN JONSON.

They were discussing the Welsh coal strike in a city bar. A tall, well-set up man was particularly bitter in his condemnation of the rebellious coal-choppers. "They should be taken out and shot, every man jack of them," he declared heatedly. "Striking at a time like this when the Empire is fighting for her very existence." Most of his hearers murmured approvingly, for the tall man was a "well known and respected citizen." Boss at the gas works, and drawing eight pounds a week, his acquaintance was worth cultivating, for he was not a giver of jobs. He drank his whisky and soda, and continued, "There is too much of this sort of thing going on. People putting their paltry personal needs before their duty to their country. And look at all the young fellows you meet at football matches and race meetings, and the crowds you see at the picture shows. It's disgraceful."

The listeners shook their heads dependently at the inborn depravity of these "slackers." "I contend," said the patriot, impressively, "that any man who does not offer his services to the Empire in this hour of peril, is unworthy of the name of Britisher."

During the applause which followed this loyal declaration, a coal-grimed lumper came in and ordered a pint of beer. The tall man regarded him disapprovingly. "For instance," he said, "here is a type of man who would make a splendid soldier." The begimmed one shot a hostile glance at him over the top of his pint. "And yet," continued the patriotic one, "he is only using his country's need as a means to make more money. Working overtime. Why don't you, he asked disgustedly, "Why don't you enlist? Is there nothing doing at the Dardanelles?" "Damn the Dardanelles," said the lumper shortly, "I gotta wife and five kids to keep. Why the hell don't you enlist yourself. Ain't you big enough?" he asked sarcastically.

The six-footer regarded him awhile with pitying contempt before answering. How could these common folk be expected to understand the responsibilities of citizenship? Then he spoke, "Enlist! Me! How the devil can I? MY POSITION PREVENTS ME."

FLANEUR.

The blood red banner of the cause of militant Labor is followed to-day by a myriad band, that not even the European holocaust can suffice or side-track. The day of the black flag of commercial piracy—the Skull and Crossbones—and it's dominions are being hurled headlong to a timely and speedy end by the rejuvenated and revolutionary international organisations of the Industrial Workers of the World.

Even to-day we will reiterate through the battle smoke and across the trackless seas, the profound and inspiring words of Marx, "Workers of all countries, Unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains, you have a world to gain."

It has been the curse of the Labor movement in the past that it has never realised, except in an occasional hazy manner, that the interests of the working class of all countries are identical.

In the future the workers will have to act as a class in order to compel the ruling class to cease their persecutions and tyranny towards members of their class.

At the present time there are many men of the working class army rotting within the goals of the United States for organising and standing by the principles of their class in the hours of struggle and strike. At Folsom Gaol in California, two men, Ford and Suhr, members of the I.W.W., are undergoing a life sentence on a rigged-up charge of murder because they were instrumental in organising the workers on hop ranches two years back. The workers were herded under such beastly conditions that they were even denied drinking-water by their masters, and over 600 men and women and children were obliged to use six lavatories among the lot of them. Armed police swooped down on the rebellious camp, and during an altercation, a Porto Rican shot one of the police dead, and then committed suicide. The State of California, however, grabbed Ford and Suhr, two innocent men, and sent them along for life terms in the gaol.

In Texas, Chas. Cline and R. Rangel are sentenced to 99 years for being concerned in the killing of a notorious scab herder. In Colorado, John Lawson, of the United Mine Workers, has been sent along for a life sentence by the Rockefeller interests, for committing a murder while he was admittedly twenty miles away. At the present time the authorities are attempting to send Schmidt and Caplan, of the Structural Ironworkers, along with the McNamara brothers, for the dynamiting of the Los Angeles "Times" office five years ago. These men will go to the electric chair, or to Macgill's Island for the rest of their days, if the united working class of the world don't stand behind them.

One of the finest working men who ever trudged the American continent, and a singer of the revolution, Joe Hill, may be shot at any moment on a trumped-up charge of killing a merchant. The Court of Appeal has turned down his case, and at present he is lying in Utah Gaol awaiting execution unless the workers of this and other countries are prepared to take drastic action to release him and his comrades of the class war.

The ruling class are absolutely unscrupulous in their attempts to stifle the rising and intelligent tide of discontent. They grab the leaders and persecute and hang them. This will continue as long as Labor is disorganised, as long as national prejudice and indifference continue. But better days are coming, for the I.W.W. is laying the foundations of a new International, the foundations of an International that will not be a fiction of Socialist papers but a real and growing force. A force that must in the nature of things rejuvenate and emancipate the working class.

The speediest way to free our fellow workers is to apply and advocate the boycott, until the American authorities are compelled to release them. Don't buy American goods until Hill, Ford, Suhr, Panzer, Chime, Rangel, Lawson, Schmidt and Caplan are free men!

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

In future all communications to the Literary Secretary, and Secretary of Sydney Local No. 2, the General Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor and Manager of "Direct Action" should be addressed to Box 98, Haymarket P.O.

If a notice "Expired" is on your "Direct Action," it means that your sub has expired. Renew at once, if

The Huns are amongst us! The enemy is within our gates! The iron heel of oppression can be felt! The hour has come to strike!

The modern Huns which now infest society are carrying on their nefarious designs upon a helpless proletariat. The acts of infamy which are now being perpetrated are revolting to all live men. Every ethical code and moral standard have been broken by these present-day desperadoes in their unscrupulous depredations.

Travail, starvation, and death is now the lot of the great bulk of the working class, while the master class by their expert system of brigandage are making huge fortunes.

One need not plunge back into the remote past to read of the barbaric acts of plundering armies, nor need one travel to the seat of war to see them at work.

The Goths, Vandals, and Huns of ancient times are as pet lambs alongside the modern master class. The capitalist class of to-day have an appetite which can never be appeased. They will go to any extreme in an attempt to glut their licentious desires. Their thirst for gold is so strong that everything must be sacrificed which stands in the way. With a ruthless way they dominate the whole world, and down goes everyone who dares to raise his voice in protest against their bloody deeds.

Recent revelations have demonstrated very plainly to all who care to look and learn, what ghouliah monsters and blood-thirsty vampires the master class are. They are more rapacious than a pack of famished wolves. They will stop at nothing in their wild plunge for profits. They know no law, no morality. They care nothing for treaties or agreements. They respect no constitution when it stands in the way of big dividends. They will destroy human life in an endeavour to swell their banking accounts. They will ravage, maim, and slaughter, all for the sake of a few dollars.

Let the working class in any country demand more wages or less hours, and we hear a howl as if the destiny of the nation were threatened. Let the slaves be so rash as to revolt against their conditions and strike, and the human vultures call in the special police and militia to bludgeon and shoot all those who have the manhood to speak.

The master class can outrage, rob, and kill for all eternity, and they are called respectable members of society; but let the slaves ask for more of what their labor produces, and they are given hot lead.

The mine owners of the world, who have stolen the natural resources of the country, roll around in idleness and luxury, attend sumptuous dinners, and live lives of sloth and dissipation; but when the burly miner, who works down in the deep sunk mines by the flicker of the candle light, risking his life every hour in bringing to daylight the precious metals of the earth, dares to ask for more light, he is met with the machine gun.

There is not a capitalist country in the whole world where the master class have not been guilty of atrocious acts and unspeakable crimes. Every country has seen the sight of strikers in conflict with the police. The five continents have their unnumbered martyrs who have been murdered by the minions of law and order for daring to ask for more bread.

The behaviour of these modern Huns the last few years has been so glaring, that even the Tory press has at times been shocked into dropping some strong hints. Listen to what they say. The "Yorkshire Post" of January 12th says: "We have swept the Germans from the sea, yet up goes the price of every commodity." Further on the same paper says: "The companies threaten to register under a foreign flag if the Government dare to interfere with their barefaced and impudent robberies." The "Weekly Despatch" says: "We are the victims of stock exchange gamblers." The "Weekly Echo" says: "How can a nation put forth all its strength if its vitality is to be artificially sapped by legalised highwaymen." "Lloyd's Weekly" in commenting upon the situation caused by the coal miners' strike, said the mine owners were "coal thieves." The "Daily Chronicle" says: "Was the German we shot in the Tower as vile a villain as the Englishman who enrich themselves by clothing English soldiers in shoddy that kills them with pleurisy and pneumonia more rapidly than the bullets of the open enemy?"

The foregoing excerpts are from Tory and Liberal papers, who have always been the enemy of the working class.

call different sections of the master class "highwaymen," "impudent and barefaced robbers," "gamblers," "coal thieves" and "vile villains," one can imagine what a huge amount of plunder is laid hold of by these modern Huns. "Reynolds Newspaper" of January 24th says: "We have, on occasion, made some strong statements in this column; we have condemned men and systems remorselessly, when we considered either inimical to the welfare of society; but we have never said anything harsh enough, or bitter enough, strong or terrible enough, to characterise the thieves and brutes that are now loose among us." On January 31st the same paper in a leading article says: "The wives and children who have sent their bread winners to the front. . . can ponder over their half empty grates and their partially filled stomachs in the evening, and feel an exquisite thrill of elation over the fact that their husbands and fathers are helping, or have already helped, to keep the blood-stained skins of the ghouliah shipwreckers and food gamblers, who are robbing their children at home. It is not the blood heroically shed in a great cause which hurts most. It is the stomach-plunder at home by men of our own race that hurts most."

It must now be apparent to all, after the many thousands of illustrations of the past few years, the great class war which is raging in modern society. He who denies the existence of the war of the classes is mortally blind indeed, and beyond all hope of social redemption.

The poor, ignorant, bone-headed slave who believes that he has interests in common with the boss, is fast becoming a nonentity. The sooner that man from the stone age sniffs out his light, the better for society in general.

The class war is on, and must be fought to a finish. There can be no quarter, no peace, until the master class are overthrown and the workers enjoy what their labor produces.

We are fighting an unscrupulous and vicious enemy, who will use the vilest and most infamous tactics in the fight.

The working class must be prepared to use methods that will win the day, without any thought of moral codes or constitutions. Direct action and sabotage are unlawful, but they get the goods. Try them.

In the battle fields of the working class are in the industries where they work. The fights of the future must be fought out in the shops, factories, mines, and mills. The place to fight the boss is where his profits are made—at the point of production.

Get into the I.W.W. and help to rid society of these modern Huns. Learn how to fight with scientific weapons. Alaska once in the Army of Revolt, which will one day hurl the master class into oblivion, and give to the working class the full product of their toil.

NORMAN RANCIE.

SYDNEY NOTES.

The propaganda of this Local has been well sustained of late. Street meetings have been very successful, and while literature sales have not been so good as formerly, the sales of "Direct Action" are on the up-grade.

As a result of the silly and foolish attacks upon the I.W.W. many queries have come to hand from various parts of the Commonwealth enquiring for information about the organisation. Thus do the politicians help to create the power that will deprive them of their nice easy billets.

Mrs. Paul recently spoke in the Hall on "Conscription" to a very large and appreciative audience. On the following Sunday M. G. Victor Hugo lectured upon "Astronomy and its relation to Human Struggle." The lecture was very interesting, and evoked a good deal of discussion.

It is within the realms of possibility that F.W. King will visit the railway construction camps within the next few days at Alpine, Pictou, etc. F.W. Rancie will be up from Melbourne, and plans will be drawn up for a more systematic educational crusade all over the country. The One Big Union is in Australia to stay.

NOTICE.

The Editor of this paper cannot undertake to publish anything that is sent along by members or individuals. Organisation news and information comes first; topical instructive articles second; and, lastly,

"Truth" Trownces Troglodytes.

PERNICIOUS POSTERS.
Loyalty of our Legislators.
The Destinies of the I.W.W.

Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald Challenges Poster-Pastors.

To French Their Creed in any Workshop.

What a fatal facility these politicians have. If they would only act as strenuously as they talk, they might achieve something, that is, providing their actions were marked by some intelligence, a characteristic usually missing from their talk. Judging by a debate in the Legislative Council one night last week, the elderly occupants of that Chamber would appear to be under the impression that the great war is to be won—or lost—by words. They worked themselves up to a pitch of fury over a poster that had been tacked up somewhere. They denounced it as a document designed to militate against recruiting. We really cannot see what there is in the poster to create such consternation. It reminds capitalists, parsons, politicians, landlords, and newspaper editors that they are needed in the trenches. Well, why shouldn't they be reminded of the need of their services? It cannot be gainsaid that, throughout the Empire, capitalists, parsons, politicians, landlords, and newspaper editors have

Come to the Front.

And why shouldn't they? From day to day the cables have brought us word that these men have acquitted themselves valiantly. Even from the Commonwealth parsons and politicians have distinguished themselves. The Fighting Parson from Queensland met his death at the front, and a Western Australian minister led his men to victory when their officers had been shot down. The poster also advises workers to follow their masters. It is a British rule that the officers lead; the German rule is the direct opposite. It is a cautious critic that can take reasonable objection to the poster. It may have been devised in a cynical spirit, or a humorous one, but there certainly isn't anything in it to deter the man who desires to go to the front from going. Far more serious as deterrents to recruiting are the letters that appear in the daily press, and these letters are certainly not written with any view to hampering recruiting; on the contrary, they are intended to assist it. We want recruits, but the politicians are certainly going the wrong way to work when they talk big themselves, and threaten to gao men for indulging in small talk. This war is

"A Fight for Freedom."

It is burlesquing matters, however, if the reasonable freedom that has been allowed our citizens is to be fettered by present-day politicians. The bright spot about it is that, though our Legislative Councillors spoke big, it may have been merely with a view to letting the general public know how exceedingly loyal they are, a desire which seems to be somewhat superfluous, seeing that the general public never doubted their loyalty. One worthy Councillor asked for the poster, so that he could have it preserved in the Mitchell Library as an historic document. As the speeches in connection with the to-be-historic poster are also likely to become historic in the days to-be, we quote the salient parts of the eloquent utterances from "Hansard":

The Hon. Sir Joseph Carruthers: Another thing I would like to point out. A gentleman called at my house yesterday and said, "I have been listening to the recruiting addresses of Mr. Fitzgerald and yourself, but," he went on, "what chance is there of recruiting when almost every workshop throughout the city this placard was put up yesterday morning,"—and he handed me a copy. I am not going to advertise the contents of the placard by reading them and putting them in to Hansard, but for men who are prepared to issue a placard of that character, in which they try to

Arouse Class Hatred

and cause every working man to avoid his obligation in this country, there is only one place, and that is with their backs to the wall, and a squad of soldiers in front. No matter how influential the organisation may be which is responsible for this production, I would not allow it to resort to tactics of this kind. The Government should take immediate steps to amplify its powers to enable it to deal with matters of this kind. We should not merely look to the Federal Government. The Federal Government has its powers and its arena of action. But if we can amplify or extend its powers or link up with the Federal Government we should do so. I have made these remarks, as the Minister will understand, in no unfriendly spirit,

but with a desire to make a suggestion in which, I think, the Government will concur. I give the Government every credit in this crisis for what it is doing in a patriotic way to arouse the people to a just sense of their obligations; but it is actions like those I have enumerated which are sapping and undermining its efforts. How do we know that that placard has not been printed and circulated

By Some German Spy

in our midst?

The Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald: It has been undoubtedly!

The Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald: I am sure this House is very much indebted to the hon. and learned member, Sir Joseph Carruthers, for laying certain information before it. I agree with him that the presence of persons of German sympathies at large in our midst is a menace to the community. We have learned enough to know that we can trust no Germans, and we must act on that as a general principle. It may be that there are Germans who still act on the principles of justice and loyalty which are known to ourselves, but they are very few, and we ought to take no risks. But I do think a more serious matter than the presence of Germans in our midst is the poster which the hon. and learned member has produced. I am told that copies of it are stuck up throughout the Government workshops, and throughout the factories about Sydney. I say that not a moment ought to be lost in having every one of those infamous posters pulled down, and in taking all steps the authorities possibly can

To Shoot Home

to the disloyal ruffians who printed that cowardly and lying document their crime. It is acts like this that do most to injure recruiting, by instilling false suspicions into the minds of the workers and by putting before them the gross and egregious falsehood that what one may call the more well-to-do classes in the State are not doing their duty. I venture to think that there was never a time when the well-to-do classes were doing their duty more nobly and more wholeheartedly than they are to-day. To insinuate that that is not so is a gross libel on the citizens of this State; and when it is done for the purpose of inculting envy, suspicion, malice, and hatred in the mind of the workers—to induce them to believe that they are being made catspaws of, and that they are being used as mere food for powder while the wealthier classes are escaping their obligation—is endeavouring to

Disguise the Workers

from their duty by placing the falsest and basest of lies before them.

The Hon. Sir Joseph Carruthers: Do you not think it is a German spy who has done this?

The Hon. J. Garland: I very much doubt it. One hears the same statements made in the Domain by men who are not German spies. Make no mistake about it, these sentiments go from the mouths of many men who never saw Germany.

The Hon. Martin Doyle: Do you think that there are many of them in the country among the I.W.W.?

The Hon. J. Garland: I am afraid there are a good many of them in the country.

The Hon. J. Wilson: You could put them all in this Chamber, easily.

The Hon. J. Garland: I have no hesitation in saying that I do not believe it. At any rate, if there are only a few of them

They are Only Snakes,

and the sooner we scotch them, the better. If they are only a few, they will be so much the more easily caught and dealt with. I do hope the representative of the Government will see that no time is lost in taking steps in having these placards removed, and in doing what can be done to punish their authors.

The Hon. J. Wilson: I think it is a well-known fact that an active minority can often do more work and more harm than an indolent crowd. Take the Exhibition Building, with the Premier addressing the people, or take the Town Hall, and a well distributed twenty men can cause more trouble than the rest of the crowd, if they attempt to shut a man up. Whoever is the instigator of that programme, I am glad the hon. and learned member had the sagacity—although it is to be published—to prevent Hansard being disgraced by the insertion of the knowledge that such a thing exists. What I cannot understand is this: Where are

Our Loyal Aims?

Where are our loyal factory hands, who upon entering the factories for their daily work, did not immediately see

down that disgraceful sign?

The Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald: They probably did.

The Hon. J. Wilson: If that is so, let us hope the copy before us is the only one that has escaped destruction, and preserve it for the purpose of being in future prepared to deal with that class of work. Now what happens with the wharf laborers, even in regard to a pal beside whom they have worked for years? They say to the employer, "Dismiss him for we knock off work." What does the bottlerwork say: "These Germans must go or we will not return to work." And they did not until the Germans were dismissed. And there is nothing more clear to me, or more impressive, than the fact that once there is instilled into the people German sentiments they will be Germans first and all the time. The man who has associated during the last twenty years with Labor men, and has been

Loved and Respected

by them, occupying a position of trust, clever to a degree, and in the employ at last of the Federal Government, is now interned because his German blood became above all other instincts loyal to his Fatherland.

The Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald: I turn from that to the question which the hon. member, Sir Joseph Carruthers, had brought before the House. It is with regard to those posters. I am not going to be so modest as the hon. member, Sir Joseph Carruthers, but am going to read the document, and afterwards ask the hon. member to allow me, as a trustee of the Mitchell Library, to have possession of the document to hold it there as a historical document. I am also going to promise the hon. member that I will take the poster direct to the Chief Secretary and draw his attention to it, and from what I know of him I am sure that 24 hours will not elapse before action is taken to deal with these people, who ought to be placed in a German internment camp. One can understand a feeling of pride in the German in his great country which has made such progress in feats of arms. One can easily understand their having true loyalty to their own country, but who can understand an alleged Englishman or an Australian who uses devices

Such as the Poster

I have in my hand to prevent our young men in taking their share in the cause we are combating for. This is what the poster says:

To Arms! Capitalists, parsons, politicians, landlords, newspaper editors, and other stay-at-home patriots, your country needs you in the trenches. Workers, follow your masters.

The imprint is "I.W.W. Print." I do not know whether hon. members are aware of the constitution of the International Workers of the World. The International Workers of the World are a body of persons, who as far as the Labor movement is concerned, are absolutely negligible. They are hostile and mischievous to the constitutional Labor movement. Their methods are those which you, Mr. President, know were tried in Australia 25 years ago, and abandoned as ineffective—the weapons of the strike and sabotage. They were tried here

In the Old Days,

One of the devices to enforce the old trade unionists was to strike and destroy property. It was never carried very far here, because the trade union leaders were opposed to sabotage or the destruction of property, and generally had their men well in hand. After the great strike in 1890-91, the Labor Party deliberately decided that the old weapon of the strike was a failure, and that through it the workmen suffered more than the capitalists, and resolved to abandon the methods, crude, imperfect, and brutal, which are now being advocated in our midst by the I.W.W. It was the abandonment of these methods for the peaceful one of the political action which has brought our party the dominant position it occupies to-day, a position which is not only dominating, but respectable and respected. We have adopted constitutional means, but the I.W.W. have

Taken the Other Course,

and fomented strikes in this community, against the avowed policy and legislation of the workmen's party. But so far as the effect of the doctrines of these men making themselves felt on the minds of the working men of this country is concerned, I challenge these men who distribute posters of this character to go into any workshop and preach their creed or display such posters. They would be dipped in the nearest pond. I say that the working classes of this community, and every man who is worthy of the name of a man, are with the British Empire, because they know that we are fighting for something that means everything to us, and that we can get all we want in the industrial sphere by constitutional

tional means under the British flag.

It appears that the placard referred to by the Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald is not the only placard, or poster, of an objectionable character that is being posted about the city. The police have discovered another, which has, in several cases, been posted over the recruiting posters displayed about the city by the orders of the Government. This poster, however, does not touch the question of enlistment, and deals only with industrial methods. It advises the reader not to "dapple" in arbitration, and suggests sabotage as a weapon that is preferable to arbitration. Sabotage is, the placard alleges, a more effective weapon than arbitration. The Chief Secretary, Mr. George Black, has referred the matter to the Crown Law authorities to take action against the person, or persons, responsible for the display of the poster. It is thought that the printer of it was probably a person of foreign education, as

The Word "Dapple"

has evidently been erroneously used for dabble. "Dapple" means to mark with small spots: "Dabble" means "to do something in a small way," or in a slight or superficial manner. "Sabotage" means the doing of things in a "slipshod" way so as to hinder industrial operations. The term is sometimes applied to the violent destruction of capital by workmen.

There is no doubt that, should Britain adopt a thorough system of conscription, and Australia follow Britain's example, difficulties such as the members of the Legislative Council believe to have arisen from the displaying of the first of the posters referred to would be, largely, removed. It is a lamentable fact that Australian politicians, most of whom are of military age—and many of whom are quite unnecessary in public life—have shown

a Surprising Reluctance

to come forward as recruits. Up to the present, only five out of the ninety members of the Legislative Assembly of this State have enlisted. These honorable exceptions are Messrs. F. A. Chaffey, C. S. Fern, E. R. Larkin, Lieutenant-Colonel Braund, and Colonel J. W. Onslow. Sergeant E. R. Larkin and Lieutenant-Colonel Braund were killed at the front. There are 64 members of the Legislative Council, some of whom are of military age, but not a solitary member of that body has volunteered for the front.

Moreover, it is a regrettable fact that the Federal politicians who raised their own salaries as members of the Commonwealth Parliament, deliberately excluded members of the Federal and State Parliaments from the operation of the form of compulsory service that may

Be Put Into Force

in this country. As will be seen on reference to the Commonwealth Year Book (No. 9, pages 936 and 938) all British subjects of European descent in Australia are liable to military service—with the following exemptions:—
"Persons certified as medically unfit; members and officers of Commonwealth and State Parliaments; judges and police magistrates; clergymen and theological students; police and prison officials, lighthouse keepers; medical practitioners and nurses in public hospitals; and persons having conscientious objections to bearing arms. Medical practitioners and non-Europeans, and conscientious objectors are not exempt from non-combatant duties."

This system applies only to the defence of Australia; and, for this purpose, all male persons between the ages of 18 and 60 are liable to serve in the Defence forces. In order to raise Expeditionary forces, however, only the voluntary system is relied upon; but,

Should Britain Adopt Conscription,

it is almost certain that Australia would follow suit.

Contrast the Australian system of deliberately exempting politicians and parsons with the system adopted by our gallant and admirable ally, France, of refusing to exempt anybody except for physical unfitness. Here is the French system, as shortly stated in the latest volume of "The Statesman's Year Book":

Military service in France is compulsory, and it is universal in the fullest sense of the term, no exemptions being allowed except for physical disability. Liability to service extends from the age of 20 to the age of 48.

That is a proper system. We do not believe that youths under 20 years of age ought to be asked to serve in the military forces; nor do we believe that conscription should be exercised with regard to a man over 48; but, between those two ages, every man should have to do his share; and politicians should most certainly be excepted. French politicians would be

Literature List.

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extremely ashamed to ask for such an exemption. They differ from most Australian politicians.

An extremely large proportion of the members of the French Parliament are

Fighting in the Trenches.

What is more, even under the voluntary system, a very large proportion of the members of both Houses of the Parliament of Great Britain are on active military service. Why do not Australian politicians follow the British example? If they showed a tendency to do so, the effect upon recruiting would be very noticeable; and there would be no necessity to foam at the mouth about objectionable posters, or to incite men to commit acts of violence against men who are suspected of being hostile to recruiting.

Sydney Truth.

Printed and Published on behalf of the Industrial Workers of the World, by John Hamilton, Chairman of Press Committee, 330 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, N.S.W.