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ONE PENNY

## "Direct Action"

A "DREADFUL PUBLICATION."—THE "PRESSING PROBLEM OF SABOTAGE."—MR. ATKINSON SMELLS OBSCENITY IN REFERENCE TO MEN-TAL PROSTITUTES.

Mr. Meredith Atkinson, the expert economist of the Workers' Educational Association, who was specially imported from England ostensibly to educate the workers of Australia on economics, is not losing much time in letting us know what his real purpose in Australia is.

Following up a comparatively mild attack in the "Sunday Times" of a few weeks ago, last Sunday's issue of the same paper would seem to indicate that what he describes as "this dreadful publication, 'Direct Action'" has got on his nerve.

Mr. Atkinson, it appears, since the publication of his first article has received a number of congratulatory letters on his contribution to what he calls "the pressing problem of Sabotage," and this has so apparently encouraged him that he even goes the length of getting the "Sunday Times" to reproduce a copy of some of those "stickers" over which the I.W.W. is rapidly becoming famous, or infamous, according to the point of view.

It is apparent from his latest contribution, however, that his real purpose is not so much to prove that sabotage is economically unsound, as it is an endeavour to discredit the I.W.W. in the eyes of the workers by representing its members as a set of criminal fanatics who cannot even rise above obscenity in controversy. He prefaces his article with an extract of an open letter to Mr. Spence, M.H.R., which appeared in "Direct Action" a few weeks ago, and tells us further on that he "should like to expose the temper and quality of mind of these saboteurs by quotations from this letter, but the language is so abusive and in many places so obscene" that Mr. Atkinson has qualms about offending the moral senses of the readers of the yellow rag in Sydney.

Intelligent workers will accept this kind of argument for what it is worth; but just here we can't help wondering why Mr. Atkinson did not call the attention of the police authorities to the "obscenity" which he refers to. An opportunity of that kind for discrediting an organisation he detests so much should not be missed. Mr. Atkinson did not do this, of course, because he lied when he wrote that sentence; and, what is more, he knew he lied. Certainly in the open letter referred to there was some reference to "mental prostitutes," and it is conceivable that such a phrase touches Mr. Atkinson very closely.

Space will not enable us to deal with Atkinson's "arguments" against sabotage and slowing down. The fallacy of the "increased production" shibboleth is covered by an article or two elsewhere in this issue, and has been dealt with in almost every issue of "Direct Action" of late. Needless to say, though Atkinson apparently is such a diligent reader of "Direct Action," he has failed to reply to any of the points raised.

He makes vague and worthless statements about having read a considerable quantity of I.W.W. literature, but "never have I met," he informs us, "one single sustained argument."

We believe there was a man named Marx, whom Atkinson himself recently described as the "most distinguished economist of the 19th century," who wrote a work, running into three volumes, which in the main goes to show that side by side with increased production, with scientific improvement and efficiency experiments in all spheres of industry, have gone the degradation, poverty and misery of the working-class.

That argument may not be "sustained" in the eyes of the pink-fingered gentlemen who examine the capitalist system of production from a comfortable arm-chair, but it is borne out by the fact that it is in those countries where capitalism is most highly developed that the largest percentage of unemployment and destitution is to be found.

As a sample of "sustained arguments" which emanate from university educated gents of the Atkinson type, we quote the following from his latest effort:—

"My thesis," he explains, "is that the economics of those means (sabotage, etc.) are erroneous and absurd, and that their practice is WHOLLY against the interests of Labour."

Then he gives definitions of three forms of sabotage, the third of which he describes as

"Sabotage for consumers, which aims at exposing and preventing adulteration and other commercial frauds. This is merely an extension of the method long known to Trade Unionism, and leagues of consumers, and one which is generally in the public interest."

To describe a policy as "wholly against the interests of Labour, a third of which is 'generally in the public interest' does not seem very consistent or sustained, especially from a man who has come over 12,000 miles to 'educate the workers'."

However, Mr. Atkinson is fulfilling the duties in connection with his job admirably. We join with the "Sunday Times" and the other admirers to whom he refers, in congratulating him on his efforts, though the results may be doubtful.

When the spokesman of the W.E.A. gets the ear of the capitalist press to the extent of several columns for propagating economic truth (?) even the unthinking worker is liable to smell filth, though his nose may not be so keen as Mr. Atkinson's in smelling obscenity.

### SYDNEY LOCAL.

#### Meetings, &c.

Street Propaganda at Bathurst and Liverpool Streets every Friday and Saturday Evenings, at 8 p.m.; also Sunday Evening, at 7.

#### Meetings in Hall:

Sunday, 8 p.m.—Propaganda.  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Economic Class.  
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Business Meeting.  
Saturday Evening—Speakers' Class.  
Also Public Meeting every Sunday Afternoon in the Domain.

### FREMANTLE ACTIVITIES.

Hall, 35 Phillimore Street.  
Wednesday, 8 p.m., at Hall: Lecture night.

Friday, 8 p.m., at Hall: Economic Class.  
Saturday, 8 p.m., at Hall: Business Meeting.

Sunday Afternoon, 3 p.m., Esplanade, Perth: Propaganda.

Local 5 has now a library of up-to-date revolutionary economic working class literature at the Hall, and all rebels after some mental dynamite are invited to blow in and help swell the ranks of the rebel army.

### MELBOURNE ACTIVITIES.

Local No. 8, 243 William Street.  
Monday, 8 p.m.—Business Meeting.  
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Educational Class.  
Working Class Economics.—T. Turner, Instructor.

Friday, 8.30 p.m.—Propaganda Meeting, Brunswick, corner Sydney Road and Victoria Street.

Sunday—Propaganda Meeting, Yarra Bank.

The rooms are open to all workers every night. All working class papers on file. Good Library. A welcome to all the "disobedient ones."

## Spasms

(By Tom Barker.)

Fellow-worker Foley is demonstrating what can be done in the line of getting subs for the paper. Over 35 have arrived within the past few months from around the Mount Curbine district. Work like this should bear fruit in the near future, work that will be fraught with trouble and headaches for the ruling class of this "democratic" country.

Fellow-worker Paddy Wilson, one of our members, who hails from the Green Isle was grabbed during his quest for a master in the vicinity of Wagga, for being a German. An armed guard was despatched for our fellow worker, who was carefully deposited in Liverpool Concentration Camp. There a person was discovered who could speak Irish, and consequently Paddy was released. So it is evident that Ireland has not yet declared war upon Great Britain, although it has been demonstrated that on one occasion, the Defence Department that looks after alien enemies, can differentiate between High German and an Irish brogue.

A political foghorn of the name of Lynch is assuming the mantle of the departed and unlamented Andy Fisher by reiterating the stale flappoodle about "the last man and the last shilling." After the last man has left the country, Lynch and his political confreres will still be here.

When Jock Woods of the Sydney Wharf Laborers' Union starts advocating "slow down" on the kerosene handling, it is a sign that the "Direct Action" element are making themselves felt. The Sydney wharves can easily slacken their pace another fifty per cent., and still pay Jock his salary, although the dividends of the shipping sharks will suffer badly.

The I.W.W. is out for the control of the industrial resources of Australia. One of our methods is to make industry so unproductive that the boss will have to quit. The industries are ours, and we are not concerned a continental damn about constitutional methods. That is why we want One Big Union, to take the strangle hold from the boss, and utilise it ourselves. And the I.W.W. is not going to quit this business until we OWN this island.

"Politicians are a class of people who are generous with other people's lives," is merely an incontrovertible fact. Yet I am likely to get twelve months for publishing it. Yet it is a fact, and facts are stubborn things, as some of our rulers have yet to learn.

"After God made the rattlesnake, the toad, and the bug, he had some stuff left, out of which he created a scab." And after he had finished the scab, he used the last rubbish in the place and created—a politician.

The term "politician" is so opprobrious that to-day, it sinks beneath the terms of "funkey" and "lackey." It awakens repulsion and antagonism to such an extent that in a few years it will be the worst insult that can be hurled at a person.

Reported in the Daily Press that Rider Haggard is investigating the chances of dumping down discharged soldiers in the colonies after the war. Sure thing, while fighting for their country, the ruling class are using their heads to get them out of "their country," as soon as their services are dispensed with. Which means that in their absence, child and

female labour have permanently displaced them. There will be room for them in the army of I.W.W.

Helen Keller, the wonderful American woman, who, altho deaf and blind has conquered her disabilities to such an extent that she is a powerful speaker and an acknowledged thinker, recently declared for the I.W.W.—as against the wishywashy bourgeois sentimentalism of the American Socialist Party. Consequently the naicest people are dreadfully shocked, and upset. Still the I.W.W. will shock them much yet, when it presents them with a nice shovel, size No. 8. Good for Helen. Although she is sightless she can form truer conceptions than all the theorists and half baked intellectuals put together.

The J.W.W. is getting off a dozen neat little stickers. The ideas are to show the workers how foolish they are to work hard. They stigmatise parsons, politicians, capitalists as "undesirables." And the working class MUST get that idea into their heads. Treat the bosses and their flunkies like the dirty old bed bug. Swat!

The I.W.W. has nothing against the capitalist as a capitalist, or against the bed-bug as a bed-bug. But we object to the dirty way in which they both get their living.

If I get into gaol this time, there will be something doing. And hominy will be a costly diet for someone. A word to the wise (and the wobbles), is enough.

Now, I.W.W.'s, here's a mental resolution: "That we turn this old country inside out by 1920. That we turn all the bosses out to work, send all the parsons to heaven, put the politicians into the Zoo, and make Parliament House into a monkey-house. That we take charge of industry, tear down the slums, turn the kids and women on to the beaches and the parks, and the whole lot of us have a damned good time." Now, all together.

### SUPPRESSION OF FREE SPEECH.

#### THE ANTIDOTE.

The morning papers of Monday, 20th inst., exultingly comment on the breaking up of a Socialist meeting by the soldiers at Yarra Bank, Melbourne, on the previous Sunday. Similar encouragement of military hooliganism of this kind a few weeks ago subsequently led to the soldiers' riots. The howl of the capitalist press over these latter disturbances has scarcely yet died down. The soldiers were violently denounced as law-breakers, etc., and suggestions were freely thrown out that the civil community should have to be organised, if not armed, against them, all because a few shop windows were broken.

Here again we see where the "rights" of property come before all rights of the individual. Freedom of speech, however, is more valuable than the shop windows of the petty bourgeoisie, and if the authorities do not keep their military hooligans under better control the best way to attain Freedom of Speech is to attack their sacred property "rights."

Doses of sabotage judiciously administered in the Railway or other public services might cause the Minister for Defence to take the view that in order to fight Prussianism in Germany it is not necessary to have such outrageous examples of it in Australia.

### RUSSIAN PAPER FUND.

Per J. Kurzennek.

J. Ostashenko £1, M. Hark 4s, G. S. Sophio 2s, W. Christensen 2s, G. Stooro 5s, W. Perinovsky 6s, S. Yakavlev 2s, F. Razusnoff 2s, W. Smith 2s, Henry Martin 4s 6d, A. Chopaloff 3s, J. Kurzennek 3s 6d; total £2 15s.—J. FAGAN, Secretary.

## DIRECT ACTION



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## A 'Contented Democracy'

Labor Prime Minister Hughes is apparently most anxious to assure the capitalists in Great Britain of his fealty to their interests, and according to cables, and if one may judge from the amount of slobber indulged in by the capitalist press in England, as well as in Australia, he has succeeded beyond measure.

Billy is the lion of the hour. The titled snobocracy, the plutocrats, and the big gun politicians, are vying with each other in their fulsome adulation of his capacities as a "statesman"—which means a recognition of Billy's talents in the direction of keeping the "unwashed mob" in their accustomed state of servility.

As he left Sydney with a strong recommendation from the local capitalist press as to his ability in this connection, we need not be surprised. As a token of appreciation of services which he has rendered the profit-mongering crew at home and abroad, Billy will shortly be returning with a halo of patriotic glory around his head and a handle to his name. Before leaving England, however, he has taken pains once more to reassure the dividend-drawing fraternity that capital "has no reason to tremble before the triumphant Labor Party."

Interviewed by a representative of the "Daily Chronicle" on the subject, he stated that capital had increased considerably during the regime of Billy and Co., and that "many capitalists saw that their greatest security lay in a healthy, moral and contented democracy."

The exploiter, unable to see that his interests can best be served by a healthy, law-abiding and contented slave, would indeed be blind. Just as the owner of the chattel slave was interested in maintaining him in good condition, as he would his horse or his mule, so also, the up-to-date modern spokesmen of the capitalist class recognise that a healthy profit-producing human machine, submissive to his master's will, and, above all, contented, is the most valuable asset in assuring the economic security and dominion of his exploiters.

However shrewd Billy and his newly-found "cabbars" of Park Lane may be in seeing these things, the 'contented democracy' of their dreams is not likely to materialize.

Clever as Billy conceives himself to be, his conception of a community of fat, well-conditioned slaves, with no thoughts beyond that of ministering to the needs of a robber class, and an animal-like contentment with a well-filled stomach, is merely a Utopian speculation.

Capitalism and contentment are no more fusible than fire and water.

The system is not run for the purpose of producing human satisfaction, but in order to create profits. Profits mean robbery, and the greater the robbery the more remote seems the 'contented democracy' of Billy's imagination.

Capitalism itself, by its own economic laws, counteracts the soporific effects of the doses of contentment which Billy

would like to see the worker imbibe; and, however, he may dislike it, and rave about the fact, there are now forces in the field that are continually administering antidotes to the chloroforming tendencies of political scoundrels and working-class traitors.

T.G.

## Busting Beeby's Bubble.

The increasing discontent of the workers with the Labor Party has brought another set of politicians to the front who label themselves "Progressives."

Mr. Beeby, the Labor Party renegade, is the leader of the new bunch, and, if one may judge from his speeches, Beeby's desire for progress consists in the advocacy of the new-old cry, Industrial Efficiency.

"All the energy we possess," says Mr. Beeby, "should be concentrated on the one idea of the need for increased production."

To do the advocates of efficiency justice, they have certainly been consistent in "concentrating their energies on the idea;" they leave it to the workers to "concentrate their energies" on the job.

The platform of the new party also informs us that "Australia's recovery after the war will depend entirely on its capacity to increase production and make its exports largely exceed its imports."

We know that, the Beeby's of Germany, France, England, Japan, and all other capitalist countries are preaching the same gospel, and are determined to carry it out so far as it lays in their power. How, then, we may ask the efficiency experts, are increased production, and the commercial war engendered by competition between these countries, going to affect the workers?

If the capitalist world, for instance, were divided into two nations, each bent upon importing as little as possible from the other, would the surplus of commodities, accumulating in the home markets in consequence, be divided amongst the workers who produced them? We think not. The workers would be allowed to starve, as they always have, in the midst of plenty.

The same argument applies as the nations stand to-day. The idea of "increased production," "large exports," and "few imports," is one which they all have in common. Side by side with this idea, goes the determination to part up with as little in the shape of wages as the workers can be enjoined or compelled into accepting. What then happens when the world market as a whole is glutted with a superfluity of commodities, consequent on the efficiency and export craze, and the workers' wages are unable to buy back what they produced?

The Beebys, the Atkinsons, and all our alleged clever economists, are silent on this point. What will happen is that the so-called "recovery" will result in an economic crisis, followed by the unemployment of hundreds of thousands of erstwhile "efficient" slaves until the surplus of commodities are consumed or otherwise disposed of.

Increased production, therefore, spells an economic recovery for the exploiting class, but at the expense of the unemployment, starvation, and destitution of the producers.

Whether the workers vote for Mr. Beeby's party or not (and it doesn't matter much) they will do well to remember these facts on the job. The pandemics of late on the slow down proposition monium which reigns in the capitalist is an indication that an increasing percentage of them do realise the situation, the inward meaning of increased efficiency.

But it is useless to conceal the fact that a still larger percentage still remain the dupes of the economic and political quacks who lead them to believe the absurd doctrine that by extending their own robbery on the job, through increased productivity, they are assuring their future economic welfare.

The "fair day's work," etc., held up as the ideal by craft union leadership is, too, but another aspect of the same question. The intelligent minority is, however, growing in numbers, thanks to the efforts of the Industrial Workers of the World.

It is up to all who recognise the falsity of the Efficiency cry, and what it ultimately means to the workers, to join hands in a common endeavor to subvert the teaching and tactics of our exploiters.

Slow down, slow down; and again—  
**SLOW DOWN!**

## South Coast Miners.

### MINERS ON STRIKE AT SCARBOROUGH.

"Bent Axle" writes under date, 15/3 16:

The wheels of industry have not been turned here since the 13th inst., owing to a dispute which has occurred at one of the mines. Previously when a dispute took place, the men affected would strike, and their fellow workers engaged at the other mine would of course keep on working, the result being that the men were beaten badly on each occasion, and consequently had to crawl back to work.

But recently a vote was taken as to the advisability of joining both local lodges into one, the object in view being to prevent the manager from playing one set of workers against the other, and I am pleased to state that it was carried by a big majority to combine and form one lodge. The combination came into operation on the 6th instant. The above dispute arose a few days afterwards, and a deputation comprising men from each mine was chosen to interview the manager. The manager, of course, knowing full well of the amalgamation being carried, asked the various members of the deputation which mine they worked in, and on hearing that some were from the mine that was not affected by the dispute, he turned round and said he would meet them singly, but would never recognise the two mines as one lodge or union. I might state here that both mines are owned by one company.

So you see how we have been duped in the past; one set of workers has been pitted against the other set all along the line, and now we are united, the management refuses to meet us at all. A resolution was carried unanimously that we don't run after him any longer until he meets the deputation, which he has already refused twice. The secretary to the owners, one Mallet from Sydney, has said, that he would sooner lose his job than recognise the two lodges as one, so surely it must be beneficial to us miners when the Boss squeals in this manner.

I feel sure of victory in the long run for the Scarborough miners, as both mines are idle as a consequence of our combination tactics, and the boss can no longer play one set or mine against the other.

The principal motive for my writing to "Direct Action," about this strike at Scarborough is this: There appeared in the "Snooze" of the 14-3-16, a report of the dispute, which was, needless to state, a whole pack of lies, and as I knew if I wrote to that rag, they would refuse to state the true facts of the case, I take it upon myself to pen a few lines to the only working class paper in N.S.W.

The "News" states in its report that the dispute arose out of the management refusing to put some miners on cavil instead of shift work. What a pity, Mr. News! Which is best for any class of workmen, contract or shift work? The miners are fighting, I think, to abolish the rotten system of contract work, which is, without doubt, one of our greatest drawbacks. Under the contract system each and every miner is all out so far as production is concerned, and from procuring ones lamp in the morning until "knock off" it is a very hard run race.

I can assure you that at various collieries in which the writer has worked, the miners practically gallop into their working faces in their endeavour to beat their fellow workmen for a skip or a matter of 6d or a 1/- . The writer has toiled in different countries, and, from my experience, the abolition of the contract system will need to be accomplished if the workers of the world are going to make any headway in the way of the O.B.U.

If we were all on shift wages we would naturally be much slower workers than we are under the contract system, therefore would not produce so much as we now do, and we would, of course, as the stickers tell us, live longer.

The "News" gives one the impression that the Bosses wanted certain men to go on shift work; not so, the Boss knows the difference between the contract system and shift rates, just as well as some of his slaves do, and—well, you can imagine the Boss encouraging the slow down policy. Nuff Sed!

The Bosses here and a few of the "owners" or never works are running round looking very sore and puzzled. I suppose they are wondering whatever made the miners awake to the extent of joining hands. Workers, it ought to be plain enough now to you that a Disorganised Working Class cannot ever hope to fight and win against a Well-Organised Master Class.

## No Master.

Saith man to man, We've heard and known  
That we no master need.  
To live upon this earth, our own,  
In fair, and manly deed;  
The grief of slaves long passed away  
For us hath forged the chain,  
Till now each worker's patient day  
Builds up the House of Pain.

And we, shall we, too, crouch and quail,  
Ashamed, afraid of strife;  
And lest our lives untimely fail  
Embrace the death in life?  
Nay, cry aloud and have no fear;  
We few against the world;  
Awake, arise! the hope we bear  
Against the curse is—hurld.

It grows, it grows; are we the same,  
The feeble band, the few?  
Or what are these with eyes aflame,  
And hands to deal and do?  
This is the host that bears the word,  
**No Master, High or Low,**  
A lightning flame, a shearing, sword,  
A storm to overthrow.

—Wm. Morris.

### NOTICE.

Subscribers and members can now obtain a complete file of the 2nd volume of "Direct Action." The volume contains from number 21 to 55, inclusive, and dates from February 1st, 1915, to the same date in 1916.

The complete file will be forwarded to any part of Australia upon receipt of money order for 3s, which includes postage.

From an historical standpoint, as well as from an educational standpoint, the volume is essential. All the information re the Newcastle free speech fight, the poster and stickers case, the hundred and one strikes of the year, are contained within the volume.

It also includes "Cresset's" satires, Nicholl's cartoons, West's Ballad of Maitland Gaol, "General Strike," "Arbitration Court," and "The Interrupted Snooze," as well as dozens of first-class articles and criticisms upon matters industrial and political.

An early application is necessary, as the supply of files are limited. There are no files of the first volume left.

Politicians are a set of people who have interests aside from the interests of the people, and who, to say the most of them, are at least one long step removed from honest men. I say this with greater freedom, being a politician myself.—Abraham Lincoln.

## 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 allow one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working-class have interests in common with their employers.

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

Instead of the conservative motto: "A fair day's 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 everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when Capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organising industrially, we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.



## Giving the Game Away

The real causes of the war are now becoming apparent. Columns in the capitalist press, which in the early days of the war were filled with hypocritical snuffing about the woes of "poor Belgium," "poor Serbia," etc., are now devoted to suggestions and schemes for "capturing enemy trade." The disgusting leer of capitalist greed, the true cause of all modern wars, can now be seen in all discussions pertaining to post-war conditions.

"The cancer of German trade must be cut out," remarked Labor Prime Minister Hughes recently, amidst loud applause, to a meeting of profit-mongering "patriots" in London, the British Imperial Council of the Chambers of Commerce. Of course it must. And Hughes will return from London with a mandate for Conscription from these "fellow-workers" of his to be placed round the necks of the workers of Australia, so that ultimately they may have the supreme satisfaction of seeing the unpaid product of their labor going to British blood-suckers instead of German ones.

To allow himself to be exploited and fleeced under the folds of the Union Jack, irrespective of the nationality of the exporter, has hitherto been a privilege that the British wage-slave has always been expected to be proud of, but now the ruling classes of the Empire expect him to be doubly proud of his chains, when they declare their intention of monopolising the loot for themselves.

"The Fair Rents Act," said Holman recently, "is now dispensing justice and shillings to rack-rented tenants." A very catchy electioneering phrase, but not likely to work with the wage-plug whose knowledge of Holman's Arbitration Act convinces him that his wages are fixed in accordance with his rent and the price of other necessities.

## NOTES FROM NORTH LYELL (Tas.)

A few more notes re situation here may not be amiss. Our union Joss, who is also a politician, eased himself last week of a lot of hot air as to the need, while perfecting industrial organisation (he had "our" F.M.E.A. in his mind, evidently), to also keep abreast by keeping our hold of the "political" machine, as he called Parliament.

The end of the peaceful arbitration business is not yet in sight. The "bonus" offered has been accepted, but it will probably be on the old 1912 agreement, which will land the slaves here in the mud as deep as ever, when the importance of the output for munition work and the present high price of copper ceases to operate.

There was a little incident took place as a result of the stop-work meetings. At the "blow" a slave turned up to work—a gent named Sartori, a steward or treasurer of the union. When it was brought up at the last stop-work meeting, the chairman put it off till afterwards and, with the help of the secretary, the motion of disapproval of treachery was lost by a little after-meeting of hangers-on. What a nice example it sets all other slaves! This of a union official turning up and deliberately scabbing on his fellow-slaves, and then giving a lame excuse that "he didn't know," and offering the scabby wages of his shift as a sin-offering to the union funds.

Three slaves came over here recently from the Hill; they were engaged in Melbourne as miners. When they came to work they were sent on mullocking, and told that it was 9/1 work. They went rightabout face again. There is a returned hero here, ferreting out the addresses of slaves and sending them cards to turn up for medical examination. He says he is instructed to send them to those who said "No" to Hughes' invitation. By the way, Little Billy's precautions in getting away have caused great amusement to some of the slaves. One said the Kaiser couldn't have made such elaborate preparations to bunk if he'd been here spying. Anyhow, I suppose his carcass was too precious to be risked on the same route as that the heroes are sent by.

The mugs here are being sooled on to try and start a co-op store (union). We are told that a great help it will be when we are fighting the co. in the near future to have a store of "our own," to which we can fly when there are no wages coming. One genius has proposed, too, to put 10 per cent. of wages or earnings, so I've heard them called, into a fighting fund. In 12 months' time there would be three or four thousand pounds with which to fight for better conditions, and when the Lyell company knew that we had some shots in the locker they would be very chary of attempting to put up a fight. Some of the dope that is slung is so ridiculous that one is quite flabbergasted at the idea of its being spat out, and the slaves actually swallow the lot of it.

## WAGE-PLUG.

## Watson's Wowse

The "Sunday Times" lately has been giving prominence to attacks on the I.W.W.

A contributor to its columns last week one Jas. Watson, who boasts of his connection with unionism in the seventies, and whose logic, like his ideas, shows the ravages of time—asks a question the meaning of which is rather dubious. He says: "When this war is over shall we listen to the ravings of men whose inspiration is to destroy and fight, or shall we do as Young Australia has done, at Gallipoli—wipe the ravings of Continental Socialism (meaning the I.W.W.) from our midst?"

No doubt it will be news to many of the "Chimes" readers that "Young Australia" wiped out Continental Socialism at Gallipoli!

The rest of Mr. Watson's article is on a par with this extract, and were it not for the exigencies of space, and a fear that a too wide publicity of such a "raving" effusion might cause its author to be sent to keep company with Chidley, we would publish it in full for the edification of our readers.

It appears, by the way, that Mr. Watson was inspired by the necessity of coming to the assistance of Professor Meredith Atkinson, the Sydney University expert on economics, in that gentleman's latest attack upon Sabotage. We congratulate Meredith on having such an able lieutenant.

## MILITARY IMPUDENCE AND BLUFF.

Although we have been informed over and over again that no compulsion was to be used in the present recruiting campaign the military authorities and the recruiting committees are either using something very like compulsory methods or playing a huge game of bluff.

The following is the opening paragraph of a letter received by a member of the I.W.W. after having sent in his reply to the Prime Minister's appeal:—

"Dear Sir,—The Hurstville Recruiting Committee wish to notify you that your answer to the Prime Minister's Appeal is, in their opinion, most unsatisfactory. A plain straightforward answer was required and yours cannot, under any circumstances, be classed as such. The Committee has decided, however, to give you another opportunity to answer the questions plainly; failure in this instance will lead to more serious steps being taken."

The letter is signed, "J. A. McLennan, Official Recruiting Sergt., Hurstville War Service Committee."

As the recipient of this impudent communication gave a definite answer in the negative to the questions as to whether he was prepared to enlist now or at any future date, that surely was "plain" and "straight forward" enough, though that it was highly "unsatisfactory" to the stay-at-home patriots of the Hurstville War Service Committee, we have no doubt.

But what does this military upstart of a recruiting sergeant mean by saying that "more serious steps will be taken"? Up to the present, in any case, there is no law compelling men to enlist who do not desire to do so. The member of the I.W.W. who received this letter has not lost much sleep over undisguised bluff of this kind.

There may be others, however, more timid, and "Direct Action" hereby advises them, in the event of their receiving similar threats, to tell the "patriotic" recruiting committee from which it emanates, to go to hell.

The Barrier A.M.A. has passed a vote of censure against Labour-Member Cann for stating to a deputation of Darling Harbour porters that "he has long since ceased to represent the workers." Why ensure a man for speaking the truth?

"Our Ships for Our Trade," "Now is the time to Expel the Huns," "A 220 per cent Dividend," were the headings of an article in the "Sunday Times" last Sunday. No wonder Australia is pledged "to the last man" for a dividend of that kind.

Great schemes are in hand for rewarding the returned soldier for his patriotism and self-sacrifice. The N.S.W. Government intends to plant him down in the centre of a "farm" of 800 acres where, unlike his experience in the trenches, the soldier will have ample opportunities of contemplating his surroundings. If the prospect is unpleasing he may get a job from the Red Cross Society learning a trade, at 6d. an hour (vide press reports)!

## "Our" Prosperity

People sometimes talk as if commercial prosperity and the interests of the commercial folk represented the life of the whole nation.

That is a way of speaking, and it illustrates certainly a common modern delusion. But it is far from the truth. The trading and capitalist folk are only a class and they do not, properly speaking, represent the nation. They do not represent the land-owning and the farming interests, both of which detest them; they do not represent the artisans and industrial workers, who have expressly formed themselves into unions in order to fight them, and who have only been able to maintain their rights by so doing; they do not represent the laborers and peasants who are ground under their heel. It would take too long to go into the economics of this interesting subject, interesting though they are. But a very brief survey of facts shows us that wherever the capitalist and trading classes have triumphed the condition of the mass of the people has by no means improved, rather the contrary. Japan has developed a world trade and is on the look out for more, yet never before has there been such distress amongst her mass-populations. Russia has been lately moving in the same direction; her commercial interests are rapidly progressing, but her peasantry is at a standstill. France and Italy have already grown a fat bourgeoisie, but their workers remain in a limbo of poverty and strikes. No commercial prosperity means only the prosperity of a class. Yet such is the curious glamour that surrounds this subject that make a fetish of statistics about "imports and exports," that nothing is more common than for such prosperity to be taken as a taken as the prosperity of the nation as a whole. The commercial people, having command of the Press, and of the avenues and highways of public influence, do not find it at all difficult to persuade the nation that they are its representatives, and that their advantage is the advantage of all. This illusion is only a part, I suppose, of a historical necessity, which as the Feudal regime passes brings into prominence the Commercial regime; but do not let us be deluded by it, nor forget that in submitting to the latter we are being nose-led by a class just as much as the Germans have been in submitting to the Prussian Junkers. Do not let us, at the behest of either class, be so foolish as to set out in vain pursuit of world-empire; and, above all, do not let us, in freeing ourselves from military class-rule, fall under the domination of financiers and commercial diplomats. Let us remember that wars for world-markets are made for the benefit of the commercial class and not for the benefit of the mass-people; and that in this respect England has been as much to blame as Germany or any other nation—nay, pretty obviously more so.

What is clearly wanted—and indeed is the next stage of human evolution in England and in all Western lands—is that the people should emancipate themselves from class-domination, class-glamour, and learn to act freely from their own initiative. I know it is difficult. It means a spirit of independence, courage, willingness to make sacrifice. It means education, alertness to guard against the insidious schemes of wire-pullers and press-men, as well as militarists and commercialists. It means the perception that only through eternal vigilance can freedom be maintained. Yet it is the only true Democracy, and the logic of its arrival is assured to us by the historical necessity that progress in all countries must pass through the preliminary stages of feudalism and commercialism on its way to realize the true life of the mass-peoples.—From "The Healing of Nations," by Edward Carpenter.

## STICKERS.

The Press Committee have plenty of I.W.W. Stickers on hand. They are in large type, smart, and to the point. Each Sticker has an imprint on it, in accordance with the boss's law. We will send along 1,000 to any address in Australia for 2/9, 5000 for 12/, and 10,000 for £12/6. Please send cash with order. Orders will be sent to New Zealand, provided 3d extra is enclosed per thousand for additional postage. Address: Manager, Box 98, Haymarket, N.S.W.

Subscribers who do not receive their "Direct Action" regularly and promptly are requested to write to the Manager, and give particulars, so that he may take steps to get the matter remedied.

## Our Growing Press

## "DIRECT ACTION."

English. Weekly, 4s. per year. Published by the I.W.W., 330 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

## "SOLIDARITY."

English. Weekly, 6s. 6d. per year. Published by the I.W.W. Publishing Bureau, 112 Hamilton Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A.

## "A BERMUNKAS."

(The Wage Worker.) Hungarian. Semi-Monthly, 6s. 6d. per year. 350 East 81st St., New York, N.Y., U.S.A.

## "ALLARM."

(The Alarm.) Swedish-Norwegian-Danish. Monthly. 4s. per year. 164 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

## "SOLIDARNOSC."

(Solidarity.) Polish. Weekly. 6s. 6d. per year. 164 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

## "DARBININKU BALSAS."

(The Voice of the Workers.) Lithuanian. Weekly, 6s. 6d. per year. 869 Hollins St., Baltimore, U.S.A.

## "HET LIGHT."

Flemish. Monthly, 4s. per year. Franco-Belgian Hall, 9 Mason St., Lawrence, Mass., U.S.A.

## "IL PROLETARIO."

(The Proletariat.) Italian. Weekly, 6s. 6d. per year. Gen. Del. Hanover Sta Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

## "EL REBELDE."

(The Rebel.) Spanish. Bi-Weekly, 4s. per year. Bundle rate 1d. per copy. Address all communications and remittance to Administrator, El Rebelde, Box 1279, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

## "RABOCHAYA RECH."

(The Voice of Labor.) Russian. Weekly, 4s. per year. Bundle rates, 1d. per copy outside Chicago. Address: 1146 South Desplaines St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

## "A LUZ."

(Light.) Portuguese. Semi-monthly. Subscription 4s. per year. Bundles of 50 1d. per copy. Address, 699 South First St., New Bedford, Mass., U.S.A.

## ADDRESSES OF I.W.W. LOCALS.

Adelaide Local 1.—Secretary-Treasurer, S. G. Drummond, 43 Charles-street, Unley, Adelaide, S.A.  
Sydney Local No. 2.—Secretary-Treasurer, T. Glynn, 330 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, N.S.W.  
Broken Hill, Local No. 3.—Secretary-Treasurer, E. J. Kiely, Palace Buildings, Sulphide-street, Broken Hill, N.S.W.  
Fremantle, Local No. 5.—Secretary-Treasurer, C. T. Reeve, 18 South-street, Fremantle, W.A.  
Boulder Local No. 6.—Secretary-Treasurer, F. H. Lunn, Lane-street, Boulder, W.A.  
Brisbane, Local No. 7.—Secretary-Treasurer, G. E. Bright, Redfern-street, Woolloomooloo, Brisbane, Q.  
Melbourne, Local No. 8.—Secretary-Treasurer, R. Power, 243 William-street, Melbourne, V.  
Perth, Local No. 10.—Secretary-Treasurer, A. Westbrook, Victoria Park, East Perth, W.A.  
Mount Morgan, Local No. 11.—Secretary-Treasurer, A. Murphy, Queensland National Hotel, Mount Morgan, Queensland.  
Cairns (Russian), Local No. 12.—Secretary-Treasurer, W. Yudaeff, Box 201, Cairns, N. Q.

## SPEAKERS' CLASS.

The Speakers' Class has been restarted at the Sydney Local. There is a pressing need for an ever-increasing supply of able propagandists—fellows who can expound and explain the philosophy and methods of the I.W.W. and make more converts, especially on the job. There are plenty who have a fair understanding of Industrial Unionism, but fail to make its principles clear to their mates owing to lack of practice in speaking and putting their case logically and concisely. The speakers' class aims at starting fresh is held every Saturday at 7.15 p.m., at 330 Castlereagh Street.

## The Crying Need for Industrial Unionism.

The recent strike of boys at the Randwick workshops is another illustration of the absurdity of perpetuating the present form of organisation.

One of the most popular arguments of the Craft Unionist is, that despite the tendency of the machine to supplant skilled labor, the different groups employed have interests apart from each other which can only be maintained by sectional organisation.

This strike, however, has once more shown how interdependent are the various branches of modern industry. A few score boys employed in a large establishment like the Randwick workshops, immediately they cease work, tie up the whole concern. A group of workers employed at any other occupation can repeat the operation, irrespective of the interests of the rest of the workers employed, at any moment they may have a desire to do so.

This shows clearly the folly of Craft Unionism, and the absurdity of different sections in an industry working under different awards and agreements expiring at different periods. Such a system necessarily breeds scabbery, or where, as in the case of Randwick, this course is repugnant to the feelings of the rank and file, a feeling of dissatisfaction, and even enmity, is engendered against those responsible for initiating the trouble which, of course, is, in itself, inimical to true working-class solidarity.

The obvious remedy is Industrial Unionism—a form of organisation which will permit of ALL the workers in a given industry putting forward their demands concertedly, and in which it is understood—as at present understood in the Craft—that any encroachments subsequently made by the employer upon the interests of any section will be resisted by the whole organisation.

It is clear that with the existence of such an organisation incidents such as that at Randwick would rarely occur, if at all. The reduction in the boys' wages in this case, for instance, would never have occurred if the Railway Department was not aware that it had only an organisation of a few score of lads to contend with; who, if they precipitated trouble in resisting the decrease, would earn the hostility of the other organisations involved.

The mere existence of an industrial organisation which, in the first place, by the concerted action of all its members, gained certain concessions, and in which it was laid down as a principle that any subsequent encroachments by the boss would be resisted on the principle of "an injury to one being the concern of all"—the existence of such an organisation would be sufficient to deter employers from inflicting those petty pin-pricks on different sections which are now so common under the present form of unionism.

The contention of Industrial Unionists, therefore, that with the form of organisation which they propagate, strikes would be, if anything, less frequent, is perfectly sound. Strikes of a defensive character, as the organisation grew in power and strength, would, for the reasons given above, altogether disappear; and only those strikes would be entered upon where it was decided by the Industrial Union concerned—not, as at present, by a small section—that the time was opportune for an aggressive movement to be made in the direction of bettering conditions all round.

Nothing is more amusing, therefore, than to listen to reactionary Craft Union officialdom, so well illustrated in the case of the Randwick incident, placing the blame for the frequency of strikes on the shoulders of the I.W.W.

Most of those futile strikes of recent years are in a large degree traceable; (all strikes, of course, are finally traceable to the capitalist system) to those ignorant union officials who refuse to recognise the march of industrial development, the ever-increasing division and sub-division of labor, the consequent interdependence of all branches of industry, and of all industries upon each other, and who persist in maintaining a form of unionism a century and a half out of date.

This unionism is not only incapable of making any aggressive move, but, by its very impotency, it invites attack from the enemy, and so we are treated to the spectacle of section after section of the great army of toilers going down to economic defeat.

The call for Industrial Unionism does not arise from the speculative theories of any group of workers, nor from a mere desire to increase strikes. Its need is embedded deeply in the economic conditions of 20th century capitalism. The increasing frequency of strikes is but an indication that the class struggle is being waged more relentlessly than ever by the exploiting class, while our Craft Union leaders stick their heads in the sand, declare "there is no class war," and curse the I.W.W. agitator for bringing industrial turmoil about their ears.

If the workers are not always to remain waging a hopelessly defensive struggle; if they are determined that they shall not be despoiled of the product of their labor in ever-increasing proportions; if they are not to sink

## The Origin of the Red Blood-stained Profits. Flag.

The Red Flag was not always the symbol of Revolutionary Socialism. It was first introduced in Paris through the Riot Law of the 21st of October, 1791. A National Guard was formed for the purpose of suppressing any disturbances or rioting that might occur. That Guard had to display at such times a red flag, as a signal that the authorities warned the rebels to cease rioting, otherwise blood will be shed. Only once was the red flag used in such a sense; on the field of Mars in Paris.

When the "Sans-Culottes" (who were the revolutionists of that period) became more powerful, then naturally the riot law with the red flag was abolished.

But the significance of the red flag has entirely changed through a little incident in 1832. General Lamarck, one of the opponents of the kingdom, died, and the Republicans, who had then a great desire to fight, wished to make at his funeral a great demonstration against Monarchy. That was on the 15th of June, 1832. The spirit of revolt was ripe at that time, and a great number of people followed the funeral procession. Suddenly a Republican horseman arrived carrying in his right hand a red flag, which was the spark that lit the flames of passion of the mass of the people. Immediately a struggle began in the streets, and for the first time the red flag became the signal of protest against tyranny.

But the red flag had not yet become the symbol of revolt against the capitalist class. At the rising of the silk weavers in Lyons in 1831 and 1834 they carried a black flag as a sign of the hunger and need from which they so keenly suffered. Only in that great insurrection in France in 1848, which is known by the name of "the February Revolution," in which the Socialists played a great part—then only did the red flag become the symbol of revolutionary Socialism all over the world.

The red flag means war and no peace with the present injustice and state of things! The red flag is the symbol of activity, life, and progress. The different colored flags of every national tyrannical Government are a parade of the powers that oppress, or for ridiculous national pride. The single color of the red flag means solidarity, the brotherhood of the Human Race who desire to usher in Socialism, wherein Peace on Earth and Goodwill to All may be possible.

Therefore, Salute the Red Flag.  
—Jewish Social Democrat.

### ECHOES FROM THE WEST.

The combined forces of Fremantle No. 5 and Perth No. 10 Locals held the regular Sunday 3 p.m. meeting on Perth Esplanade. F. W. Hancock was chairman, and the speakers on the occasion were F.W.'s Mrs. A. Westbrook and Monty Miller, who both waved the standard of the principles of the I.W.W. to the breeze of public opinion in right good militant style. Our one woman speaker of the West being sound, consecutive, and logically unassailable in her address, which bristled with points that, like lance thrusts, pierced the open chinks in the shoddy armour of capitalism and crafty unionism alike.

Literature sales moderate; "Direct Action" sold out. Criticism by questions weak and inclined to run us off the industrial track—nothing doing.

Evening meeting at 8 in room at the Perth Literary Institute, first local habitat of No. 10. Audience consisted mostly of our own members, and business was more a formulation of future proceedings than of propaganda purposes. Inauguration public meeting next Sunday, which it is hoped will tax the capacity of the room, and speakers, to their full extent.

The winter series of lectures in this temple of labor-gospel should prove a great success in building up the movement here, with "Direct Action" as a brain-pabulum for the semi-starved intellects of the slaves, who are such and know it not.

A combined meeting of fellow-workers was held at Fremantle on the 4th inst. for routine business. Inter-alia, resolved that F.W. M. Miller be appointed reporting secretary to official organ, "Direct Action," of doings re Perth and Fremantle Locals.

M.M.

### NOTICE.

All communications regarding literature not controlled by the Press Committee should be addressed to the Literature Committee, Box 98, Haymarket P.O., N.S.W.

deeper into the mire of economic slavery, and be content to watch hundreds of thousands of their number exterminated by starvation, then Craft organisation must be dumped where it was due long ago, and the workers must organise on the lines of Industrial Unionism into an aggressive One Big Union of the working class.

"Defence, not Aggression," is the motto of cowards contented with their slavery.

T. G.

There is great jubilation this year amongst the Australian squatters over the enhanced prices of wool. The latest "Quarterly Magazine" of the P.F.A. devotes about 24 pages to gloating over the enormous profits being made owing to the boom in prices.

The Magazine informs us that "all previous records have been beaten out of sight, and prices have extended to a line which never existed before."

Further on it says:—

"The enormously increased demand has led to boom values, and there is no fear of a slump with forced sales at ruinous prices. The wool is going into consumption, and, so long as the war lasts, the consumption must be enormous, and prices must rule high."

What a quantity of extra profits the members of the A.W.U. are producing for their masters, due to the war, while the same cause has caused wages to fall by 50 per cent., owing to the phenomenal rise in the price of the necessities of life.

Will these workers demand more pay, or leave the extra profits to the "good old" squatter, so that he may invest it in the War Loan at 4 per cent.

But, of course, while profits are accumulating, the workers are tied down by those time contracts in which the A.W.U. revels.

The high paid officials of this organisation won't hear of resorting to direct action, because such a course might jeopardize their own jobs. To such a pass has the principle of arbitration and the "sacred right of contracts" brought the workers of Australia.

This jubilation and gloating of war prices, by the way, confirms the truth of Syd. Nicholl's cartoon over which Tom Barker was recently summoned.

Are not the squatters now virtually drinking the blood of the fallen soldiers, for, on their own admission, while the war lasts, profits are soaring upwards and ever upwards. The golden fleece should now be termed the scarlet fleece; the profits therefrom are certainly bloodstained.

Well might the capitalists cry in the words beneath the cartoon, "Long live the war! Hip, hip hooray! Fill 'em up again!"

A. S. GRAHAM.

### "LIMIT TO HONEST CRITICISM."

Liebkecht, the German Socialist, recently declared that the German Government was transforming schools into training stable for war.

"The hatred of England was fomented in the schools," he said. "The children were educated for war, submarines and poisoned bombs were their ideals."

Commenting on this, Sydney "Herald" remarks, "No man who deliberately seeks to hamstring the Government of his own country at a critical period in war is a fit subject for admiration, even at the hands of enemies who might find him extremely useful to them."

The "Herald," it appears, knows that Liebkecht's remarks were as applicable to other countries as to Germany. "Teaching the young idea how to shoot," and the murder game generally, are matters that are zealously inculcated into the juvenile mind in Australia, for instance; and any ideals, opposed to "submarines and poisoned bombs," do not suit the vultures who fatten on war, be they German or British. Hence the "Herald's" venom.

The trouble with Liebkecht, so far as the "Herald" is concerned, is that he wants peace, and much as the jingo press pretends to hate Germany, it will not tolerate any attacks upon the ruling class of that country calculated to promote that object.

The same paper remarks, by the way, in connection with this matter, that "there is a limit to honest criticism, which needs must be scrupulously observed in time of national crisis." A "limit to honest criticism!" Of course there is. But why limit anything that's honest? Because in Australia as in Germany the class that profits by war can only achieve their aims by the aid of ignorance, and, incidentally, with the assistance of a dishonest press.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Week Ending March 18th, 1916.

H. Beales 1s, G. Baldacchino 2s, Mrs. M. Curran 4s, J. Dash 4s, D. Dillon 1s, F. Fuller 2s, F. Flaherty 2s, Jas. D. Gordon 1s, J. Heuter 4s, M. Moss 1s, W. Magree 2s, W. Murphy 1s, John Rancie 2s, T. Rordian 1s, L. Stamp 2s, Mick Triffitt 4s, G. Wolfenden 1s.

Press Fund.

Jas. D. Gordon 2s 6d, P. Shaughnessy 2s.

### THE I.W.W. BAND.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of 2s 6d from Jas. D. Gordon, of Wyalong for the Band Fund. The Band continues to progress, although there are still vacancies for players and learners.

It is intended to have the Band ready for its debut about the beginning of May.

Funds and players are always welcome. Practice every Monday at 8 p.m. Roll-up! J. SMITHERS, Secretary.

## The Catts' Call.

"The Call to Arms" is a highly patriotic publication which has just come into existence. According to an announcement in its editorial page, it purports to be "the advocate and exponent of Australia's highest aim—the winning of the war." It is edited and managed by Mr. J. H. Catts, Federal Labor M.P., who is the official head of the recruiting campaign in New South Wales.

The patriotic instincts of "The Call to Arms" would appear, according to the latest issue, to be severely shocked by the action of some wage-slave who covered Billy Hughes' appeal for recruits with "I.W.W. 'stickers,'" and gave an emphatic "No" to Billy's gentle invitation to enlist.

So shocked is "The Call to Arms" at this action, which it describes in headlines as "Dastardly Defiance of the Nation," that it covers two pages of the last issue with a fac-simile reproduction of the famous Appeal, or, rather, with the no less famous stickers which were pasted all over it. Then it relieves its feelings with some verses described as the "Hymn of the I Wouldn't Worker."

Recently, by the way, "Direct Action" was condemned by Mr. Meredith Atkinson—another gentleman whose patriotism is above reproach, and a member of the Universal Service (alias Conscription) League—as an organ given to obscenity in its columns.

One would think that such a highly respectable organ as "The Call to Arms," especially as it is published from the Government Printing Office, would not stoop to adopt the alleged methods of such a disreputable paper as "Direct Action"; yet the first two verses of the "poem" referred to is bordering very closely on the obscene, and we recommend Mr. Atkinson to bring his undoubted influence to bear on the literary taste of the editor.

Here are the verses referred to, and it is to be hoped readers of "D.A." will not be too rudely shocked:—

I wouldn't work, I wouldn't fight, I wouldn't hold a gun.  
I wouldn't give a postage stamp to help to smash the Hun,  
I've got no pride, no self-respect, I haven't any spunk,  
My back-bone is a jelly-fish, and I'm a blasted skunk.

If Germans came to Sydney Cove I wouldn't run away,  
I'd welcome them as brothers, and I'd ask them home to stay.  
If I'd a wife and daughter they required for their pleasure,  
I'd bid the Huns take care of them and leave them to their leisure.

Which is all very interesting, if not amusing, when we remember who the editor of "The Call to Arms" really is.

The recent divorce case, in which the editor of this highly respectable publication figured, would not seem to indicate that Mr. Catts has any great respect for those wifely obligations in which this I.W.W. man, whom he describes as a "cowardly vagabond," is allegedly so lax. The sordid details of that case, as related by the petitioner, would lead one to wish that Mr. J. H. Catts, M.H.R., Editor of "The Call to Arms," and General Plankey to Australian Militarism, had lived in the days when Sodom was in all its glory.

### BOOK OF POEMS.

It is the intention of the Press Committee to print a booklet of revolutionary poems within the next few weeks. Most of the poems that have appeared since the inception of "Direct Action" will be included.

The contents will include:—"Man With the Hoe," "The Dishwasher," "Evolution," "The Cry of Toil," "Born For What?" "Might is Right," "Mask of Anarchy," "The Way of Kings, Crowned and Uncrowned," etc.

In all probability the booklet will run to 48 pages, and sell at 6d. per copy, with the usual reduction for quantities. Orders will be booked right away.

Briefly, the reason for unemployment is that there are not enough jobs to go around. What about a shorter work-day and slowing down?

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.