



VOL. 3, NO. 64.

Registered at G.P.O.,

Sydney.

SYDNEY, APRIL 1 1916.

ONE PENNY

Tom Barker Convicted Echoes from the west. Current Comment.

VINDICTIVE SENTENCE—THE CLASS ISSUE COGENTLY STATED BY THE CROWN.

In the Central Summons Court on Wednesday last, Tom Barker, Publisher of "Direct Action," was found guilty of publishing matter likely to prejudice recruiting, and fined £100 and costs, with the alternative of twelve months imprisonment with hard labour.

The charge related to a cartoon published in this paper nearly four months ago, and which depicted a capitalist drawing huge interest from the War Loan, while the worker was represented as giving his life on the battlefield. Another item contained in the charge was a paragraph which appeared in another part of the same issue of "Direct Action," with the words, "Labor Prime Minister Hughes has offered another 50,000 to the Modern Moloch. Politicians and their masters have always been generous with other people's lives."

An appeal has been lodged against the conviction, and the case will again come up for hearing in the course of a few weeks.

Meanwhile we want to know from the workers of Australia how long they are going to tolerate this kind of tyranny at the hands of a Labor Government.

This bunch of tyrants, while claiming that they represent the workers, treat as a common criminal a working man who cartoons those parasites from whose deprivations the Labor Party has pledged itself to protect the working class.

Is it or is it not a fact that to-day there are a set of financial pirates who are drawing a higher rate of interest than ever before in consequence of the war, while hundreds of thousands of wage-earners, who do not own a shilling's worth of property, are sacrificing their lives? If it is so, then no man should be goaded for telling the truth. Besides, being a betrayal of the working class, it is an outrage on every principle of justice, and we believe that once the workers of Australia realise the real meaning of this prosecution, they will have something very emphatic to say to their alleged representatives.

To allow a prosecution of this kind to pass without protest means that in the very near future, even the mildest criticism of our exploiters and their politicians will be treated as a crime, and the workers must allow themselves to be driven like dumb beasts.

The matter lays in the workers' hands. Their power is greater than all the so-called Courts of Justice in Australia did they only realise it.

We call upon all organisations opposed to capitalist interests, which hate injustice and oppression, to register their protest against this monstrous piece of tyranny. All resolutions, etc., should be addressed to the Minister for Defence.

The real reason for the prosecution may be sought for in the remarks of the Crown Prosecutor, who laid particular stress upon the fact that the cartoon was calculated TO ENCOURAGE CLASS FEELING (not, mark you, to prejudice recruiting). "It would," remarked this parasite, "ENCOURAGE WEAK AND CREDULOUS PEOPLE TO BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE A CLASS OF PEOPLE IN OUR MIDST WHO POSITIVELY GLOAT ON THE SLAUGHTER OF OUR SOLDIERS SO LONG AS THEY GET A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT FOR THEIR MONEY."

This discloses the fact that Barker's "crime" consisted in attacking the money-mongering "patriots," and that the recruiting business was a mere side issue.

The Crown Prosecutor is hereby congratulated in stating the class issue so plainly, and intelligent workers, as well as the "weak and credulous," will draw their own conclusions.

BY "EUREKA."

Nos 5 and 10 Locals once more foregathered on Perth Esplanade for usual propaganda. F.W.'s Hancomb, chair, Mick Sawtell, and Monty Miller, speakers. The former in his well-known, concise and logical style gave an exposition of the scientific principles of the One Big Union of the I.W.W. as the only organisation capable of coping effectively with the up-to-date organisations of Capitalism, revealed the weakness in structure and tactics of all forms of present day unionism, which is all unconscious of the raging class war, and ever ready to drop the one effective weapon of labor—the strike, at the mere nod of their gods in the high-salary places of unionism and politics.

Miller followed; and at the later stage of the meeting the aftermath of the "All British" Meeting flowed over to our platform. When the Old Warrior pointed out to the new arrivals the erroneous importance they attached to the Titanic European conflict, and how little attention they gave to their own great war—the war of their forebears—their own war now, and to be that of their children hereafter, unless by a wiser and better form of organising the industrial forces, the workers achieve a great victory and take possession of the world, they have made, the devotees of A.B. Militarism took it all in good part.

Meeting, Literary Institute Room, 8 p.m., well attended to enjoy the treat of F.W. Reeves on "Revolution and the I.W.W."

Collection over the amount of expenses, and "Direct Action" and literature on sale at both meetings with satisfactory results.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

W. Allen 2s, Joe Brown 2, Frank Burke 2s, A. Bolton 1s, W. Browett 1s, F. Butler 2s, D. Bachanoff 1s, G. Bessell 4s, H. H. Cranston 2s, C. Campbell 1s, Miss L. Darch 2s, A. Dutton 2s, W. Evans 2s, H. Fagan 2s, A. Horrocks 4s, J. Hamilton 4s, R. T. Hayes 1s, F. Harris 2s, R. Kennedy 2s, I. E. Laidlaw 1s, T. Mossell 2s, C. W. Sullivan 1s, Mrs. Sullivan 1, Jas. Toner 2s, J. Turner 5s, H. Williams 2s, J. Wolfe 1s, Jos. Williams 1s, F. Winsor 1s, T. Hansen 1s, J. H. Williams 2s, H. Paterson 1s, W. Zimmer 4s, St. Louis Local 84 4s, J. Paterson (Seattle) 4s, John Lappala and Chas. Heino (Detroit) 8s 3d.

Half-Yearly Subscriptions, per F. W. Charlie O'Malley, Darwin, N.T.—J. Munro, H. Nelson, H. Blunt, H. A. Riddell, J. Lacey, J. Brooms, A. Bethune, A. Muir, W. J. Leitch, D. Sheehan, Sam Sugarmann, J. Jacobsen, B. Street, F. Hebb, Isaac Turner, J. Paterson, P. Price, J. Reardon, J. Phelan, J. Martin, A. H. Baker, J. H. Smith, Peter Samsonovitch, O. Jensen, G. More, T. Cody, A. Straker, J. Fagan, T. Allen, J. New, A. Rudd, J. Squires, J. McGregor, J. Reid, S. Du Be Dat, J. Forman, W. Thomsen, C. Gaffney, S. McCulloch, F. Power, F. Deville, F. Lavroff, C. Herman, J. Nicolini, A. Brine, W. Khunoff, J. Workman, H. Grindle, D. K. Thomas, R. Rohrer.

Press Fund.—T. Singer 2s. 6d.

FREEMANTLE 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.

"It is a cold time for shoddy Liberalism. The people have found it out," remarks the "Australian Worker." It will be a hell of a hot time for "shoddy" Laborism when the people find it out.

Trouble is brewing in the Colar Mines. A 20 per cent. increase in wages is being demanded by the employees, and one of the mines (the Occidental) is already on strike. The Federated Mine Employees' Union has given the owners notice that unless their demands are complied by April 8, a general strike will be declared. Very thoughtful of the Union to give the bosses time to get prepared.

A correspondent signing himself "Robert Greig," wants to know in last issue of the "Sunday Times," why the I.W.W. does not reply to Meredith Atkinson's attacks through the columns of that journal. Robert must be a simple-minded cuss. Fancy the "Sunday Times" giving a three or four-column ad. to I.W.W. propaganda! If friend Robert had read the editorial remarks to correspondents at the head of his letter, which limit letters to two hundred words, his curiosity on the subject might be satisfied. Failing this we recommend "Direct Action" to his attention, where he will find the case for the I.W.W. and Sabotage perhaps more than to his liking.

The Federated Engine-drivers and Firemen's Association, that body which so hates strikes and loves Arbitration, would appear to be receiving more doses of this latter principle than it bargained for. After doing its best in the recent Barrier trouble to scab the A.M.A. miners back to work on the plea that they should depend upon the Arbitration Court, its Sydney members have now voiced their disgust with the Arbitration Courts and Arbitration generally, and have declared their intention of ending work in order to remedy their grievances. The placatory instincts of their peace-loving, strike-breaking, general secretary are now taxed to the utmost in order to avoid trouble. His "Honor," Judge Heydon, by the way is rather surprised at this action from a union which he states "has invariably been in favor of law and order," and has threatened to suspend an award recently made covering the N.S.W. branches—which shows that gratitude towards scabs on the part of the bosses and their judicial fankeys is very short-lived.

Apologies of the "Sunday Times" articles we had occasion last week to refer to one Watson, one of Atkinson's literary lieutenants. This gentleman further advertised his "knowledge" last Sunday. In reply to a Socialist correspondent he informs us that he had not "only read Marx's philosophy, but Herbert Spencer Adam Smith and other philosophers." Then comes Watson's broadside: "Does our friend know," he asks, "that Karl Marx had to fly from 'Hun' Socialism to liberty-loving Great Britain, where he spread his philosophy and held high University positions." That, at all events, should have staggered his socialist opponent, considering that Marx's sojourn in England was characterised by the direst poverty, and that while writing his great work "Capital," and other publications, he was largely dependent upon the charity of friends and small amounts earned by writing articles for a New York journal. Such is Watson's knowledge of those whom he calls the "philosophers!" Had Marx been as diligent in serving capitalist interests as Watson's champion, Atkinson, the "University positions" would have been a matter of course.

Fellow-Worker Tom Barker is being prosecuted for daring to state an obvious truth, "That politicians have always been generous with other people's lives." Had he added that they were a set of humans who were especially and exceedingly careful of their own, we presume our Labor Government would have to pass a special law to meet such an enormity. That little degenerate mountebank, friend Billee, for instance, who is at present in England aping Kaiser Bill at his worst, seemed pretty generous with the lives of the men, women and children on board the Osterley when he announced that he was travelling by that ship to England. "Did it occur to this heroic Empire-saviour that if the Kaiser really had designs on his life, he was adding to the Osterley's risk from submarines? But what did Billy care? At about the time the Osterley was in the danger zone, he was safely admiring American scenery from the seats of a Pullman, or being entertained in New York by the representatives of the Steel Trust and other world-famous pirates. The fact that the Osterley arrived safely in England, however, would seem to indicate that the Kaiser was not over-worried about the "hide and seek" antics of his Australian understudy.

A branch of the Railway Institute is being formed at Goulburn. The Commissioner for Railways evidently recognises the influence of this institution in breeding servility and sabbery. Replying to an application from the Institute for accommodation in some railway buildings, Assistant Commissioner Milne says:—"I sincerely trust that Goulburn Railway Depot . . . will have in its midst a branch of the parent Railway Institute of the Commonwealth for the purpose of inculcating into the minds of the railway staff those principles which are needed to fit them for the everyday life battle and the power and influence which are needed by these men in stemming the present tide of anarchy." Milne has apparently not yet recovered from the shock he received recently over I.W.W. "stickers," which "everyday life battle," we presume, to which he refers, is the continual struggle of the large majority of railway slaves for a living wage; and, if we accept the popular conception of anarchy as meaning chaos and bloodshed, Milne would do well to recommend his scab-breeding Institute to try its "power and influence" in putting these things down in Europe.

Some of the proposals coming up for discussion in the P.L.L. conference, which is to sit shortly are "real diunkum" revolutionary, and if they are carried out the working class millennium should be within hailing distance. In these days of economic stress for the workers, and in view of the coming industrial storm when the war is over, it is encouraging to find that the P.L.L. will turn its collective wisdom on such problems as to whether a voter should get a ride in a motor car to a polling booth if he has less than a mile to walk. This important matter has evidently been disturbing the minds of the Randwick leaguists. Another league seems to be perturbed as to the present state of the law as to the disposal of the property of wage-slaves after their death. It wants at least a third left to the deceased's wife—which should encourage marriage in view of the fact that 90 per cent. of the workers die propertyless. Another proposal to be discussed is that of a tariff on all goods in favor of the allied and neutral nations, which is instructive when we remember that Laborite economists maintain that one of the main factors of present poverty is high prices. Then we have a resolution from the executive which is calculated to give ample opportunity to the members of that body to parade their "patriotism," namely, that no Liberal member of Parliament who has volunteered for the front should be opposed by a Labor candidate. A resolution emanating from the A.W.U., condemns those Laborites who associate with the capitalist class—a most interesting proposal to come from an organisation that allows employers of labor within its own folds. The same body wants the differentiation of classes in railway travelling abolished: this, apparently in order to confirm the recent statement of its President that there were no classes in Australia and no class war. All these, and similar proposals are what Laborites call "going a step at a time." What a long stride the wage-slave will have taken towards emancipation when they are all placed on the Statute Book! He will at least be 10 years nearer an old-age pension.

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.

DIRECT ACTION



WEEKLY
OFFICIAL ORGAN
of the
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF
THE WORLD.
(Australian Administration)

Office: 330 Castlereagh Street, Sydney,
Australia.

Editor: Thos. Glynn.
Manager: J. B. King.

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

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

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS: 164 W.
Washington Street, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

"Tell Me Your Company ---"

The cable news recently informed us that the "foremost unionist in Australia," Labor Prime Minister Hughes, while in New York, fraternised with one Merry, the head of the United States Steel Corporation, and with a Mr. Davidson, head of the Pierpont Morgan interests.

The two gents mentioned are identified with two of the most powerful capitalist organisations that the world has ever known—or, rather, with ONE organisation, for it would be difficult to say where the Morgan interests begin and end in the United States.

Little Billy, of course, did not conceive it to be part of his duty in the interest of labor to visit the factory hells of Pennsylvania, in which the Morgans and the Carnegies, the Davidsons and Merrys, exploit their slaves from 12 to 14 hours a day for wages averaging less than £100 a year, and under conditions that a Dante could not picture.

Billy, previous to his departure from Australia, had a conference with the foremost exploiters in Australia in Melbourne, in which more up-to-date methods of exploitation were discussed, and, no doubt, his subsequent interview with the heads of the Steel Trust and the Morgan, interests will enable him to put his capitalist paymasters wise to a point or two on his return.

Recently a strike occurred in Youngstown, Ohio, in the steel plants, and we quote the following from the last issue of "Solidarity" as showing the kind of company the "foremost unionist" keeps in his little holiday jaunts:—

"Low wages and excessive hours of labor so brutalised the foreigners employed in the steel plants of East Youngstown that the recent rioting and wholesale destruction of property was but the natural ending of an intolerable situation, according to a report of the Committee on Industrial Relations.

"The revolt of the East Youngstown workers, George P. West, author of the committee report, said, so alarmed the United States Steel Corporation that as a direct result Judge Gary, the president, immediately ordered a 10 per cent. increase in the wages of the 23,000 employees of his corporation so as to prevent the strike from spreading over the whole country.

"Guards of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company are charged by West with having been hasty in opening fire on the crowd of strikers around the gates of the company bridge. The steel industry of the country is scored in the report for its opposition to unions. It is charged the United States Steel Corporation has been able to keep its wages on a low scale by reason of the existence in this country of a large surplus of unskilled labor constantly replenished from Europe.

"So long as the steel employees could maintain with the aid of charity two men for every job discontent was smothered," says the report.

"Recent prosperity, it is argued, has made unskilled labor a scarce article, and this gave the East Youngstown men the opportunity to rebel.

"Labor and living conditions in East Youngstown are described as horrible. Babies of the workers, because of bad sanitary conditions, die at an appalling rate; 41 per cent of deaths in Youngstown during 1913 were of children under five years. Foreign born steel workers earn less than 500 dollars a year, says the report, and live in squalid, overcrowded houses."

In the riots above referred to, which were engineered by the armed thugs of the Steel Corporation, about 30 strikers were shot down in cold blood.

"Tell me your company, and I'll tell you what your are," is a maxim that should never be lost sight of in the class struggle.

When Billy is taken into the confidence of legalised murderers and baby-killers; when we find, as the cables inform us, that he has been given a "great ovation" at that institution of gamblers, robbers, spidlers and jugglers, known as the London Stock Exchange, when he is being trotted about London like a pet monkey by the titled snobocrats of English society;—well, Billy might be the "foremost unionist in Australia," or out of it, just as Judas was by no means the least notorious of the apostles.

MELBOURNE NOTES.

The fact that nothing has appeared in the columns of our valuable organ does not mean that this local is not persisting in its propaganda, but rather that an individual has been lax in the carrying out of his duties.

Papers and literature are going fairly well again, and the literature secretary is hoping to increase our bundle order by dozens within the next few weeks. A good salesman seems to be the greatest necessity, and I believe we have found one in the person of Norman Jeffrey, lately from Sydney. The saying that anyone can sell literature is all wrong, it is an art which all those members who will not, or cannot, speak ought to practice.

Large and attentive crowds listen to our speakers, and as a result our membership is growing and business meetings are becoming better attended. With good attendances at business meetings, the lot of those individuals in official positions is much easier.

Joseph Skurrie is still in the hominy-bell of capitalism for using as a "free-born" British subject the right of free speech. Many resolutions have been passed condemnatory of the Government: a twenty-four hour strike would tickle the master some and probably be more effective than a resolution. Organise and educate towards that end. It is about time semi-radicals and ballot-box revolutionists saw the truth of Redbeards statement: "You must prove your right by deeds of might, etc."

Outdoor meetings are in the main peaceful, except for a few of "our boys in khaki." Barkers' prosecution will be made the theme until we have again defeated our Labor politicians who are serving the master-class so well.

The Melbourne local looks forward hopefully to this year's work, believing we are going to reap the benefit of two years propaganda in the direction of the education and organisation of the slave.

ROLAND FARRALL.

Corresponding Secretary, Local 8.

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.

BROKEN HILL LOCAL.

The above Local wishes it to be announced through "Direct Action," that there is room for one or two good "soap-boxers" at the Hill. Jobs are plentiful, and I.W.W. propaganda at the present time can be sent ahead by a couple of efficient speakers.

Fight for "your" country if you wish, but what about owning your job.

War Profits and the Workers.

The Federal Government is going to tax War Profits. Where profits exceed those of the last three pre-war years, 50 per cent. of the excess is going to be appropriated by the Commonwealth. Those "excess" profits, it appears, are no inconsiderable amount, for we are told that by this action "the Government hopes to secure a considerable contribution towards the cost of Australia's participation in the war." The exploiting game must have been carried on with some speeding up since the war started when extra profits of this magnitude have been accumulated.

Profits on all occasions represent the unpaid labour of the workers, and it is evident that this unpaid product has reached such proportions that even 50 per cent. of the extra profit rolling into the coffers of the profit-mongering patriots will, as stated, represent a "substantial contribution" towards the cost of the war.

This throws a flood of light on the hypocrisy of the capitalist plea that "all classes are making monetary sacrifices in this war." The "sacrifices" of the exploiting class represent the possession of their normal profits with 50 per cent. of that accruing from the war thrown in.

This last amount has been made possible by the workers allowing themselves to be hoodwinked into the belief that by demanding more of the products of their labor they were "playing into hands of the Germans," "endangering the Empire, etc." It should now be easily perceived what the object of these cries and cant really is.

The "patriotism" of the plute press finds its highest expression in an endeavour to speed up exploitation so that war expenditure may be met out of the extra loot without any encroachment by taxation on previously accumulated plunder.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that this war tax does not in any way confer any advantage on the working class, though, no doubt, it will be used by labor politicians when the time arrives, for vote-catching purposes. The taxation of "excess" profits simply means that property owners in other spheres will be relieved to that extent of the necessity of paying for war expenditure, and the workers as a whole possess no property to be taxed.

The tax is merely interesting in the light of its being virtually an admission, despite the outcry against strikes, slowing down, and so forth, that since the war began the robbery and exploitation of the worker has become intensified.

It is one more proof that, whether during war or in peace, the workers must continue to wage unceasing warfare on the job against exploitation.

Curtailling the output, decreasing the hours of labour, and appropriating more of their product in the shape of wages, are the only means by which the workers can blast the corner-stone of capitalism, namely, Surplus Value.

APPLETON'S APPLE CART AND THE WHARFIES.

"Bitter complaint was made by Mr. W. J. Appleton at the annual meeting of the shareholders of Huddart Parker, Ltd., regarding the conduct of the water-side workers in so frequently ceasing work and thus seriously interfering with the whole shipping industry."—News item.

Turning to another part of the paper in which this interesting item appeared we find that Mr. Appleton, after declaring the usual dividend for himself and his fellow-exploiters, saying: "For the first time in four years they had been able to place an amount to the credit of their reserve fund from their earnings." Which would seem to indicate that notwithstanding the "wharfies" disreputable habit of going on strike, Appleton and Co. have been exceptionally successful in the fleecing game during the last twelve months.

Whatever must wharf-laborers be thinking about not to know that war-time is a period when the atmosphere is specially sanctified by capitalist greed, and must not be profaned by the materialistic conduct of those common people who think of nothing but more bread.

I entered Parliament with what I thought to be the lowest possible opinion of the average member, I came out with one still lower.—John Stuart Mill.

The Call of Freedom

Will you cling to a conscience, based on a creed,
When this earth is a Hell, infested with greed,
Where each man's a Barrabas, searching for self,
A foe to each neighbor, a friend only to self.
If thou wouldst be honest, righteous, and pure,
The fat's gone forth that thou shalt be poor.

No Hell for the rich in this world or the next;
The poor are the subject of every text,
Preached at from the pulpit, oppressed by the State,

And the starving admonished to labor and wait.

Aye! wait, weary worker, with patience endure,
And thou shalt be always, as now, ever poor.

'Tis written the meek shall inherit the earth.
But, who are the meek? Not the lowly of birth,
Who barter the wealth of their sinews for bread,

Are housed in garrets and cellars and scantily fed,

Hating Kingcraft and Mammon, and titles that lure,

And who yet remain honest, and therefore are poor.

The rich are obsequious, sycophants all—
Too spineless to climb, and who cringingly crawl
To the niches of fortune, surrounding a drone,
Escorted by the minions, and shined on as a throne.

Where each worshipper kneels, ere he dare venture to speak,
These inherit the earth, for these are the meek.

Let labor be scornful, sullen and proud,
For where are the broad acres of one of our crowd?
Or landless, you trespass from cradle to grave.

There is give back to nature the clay that she gave,
To be owned in your death by the lords of the soil,
Who owned you through life by the bondage of toil.

You are robbed and exploited, you are hired out for gold,
You are borrowed and lent, you are battered and sold;

What you would win highly, you would holily win,
And to wrest back what's stolen you dread as a sin.

Do the years of oppression, to serfdom inure,
That you yet remain slaves, even though you be poor.

Be not pignies of fortune, but giants of fate;
Despise all preferment conferred by the State;
When I.W.W.'s loud to you call,

'Tis priest cultured conscience that holds you in thrall,
Will you cling to a conscience, based on a creed,
When this earth is a Hell, infested with greed.

Respond to the rallying cry from the van.
Be taught but a slave, be taught but a man;
And smiting, through fraud, in the day of your wrath,

To the rights of all men, go! open the path.
Throw your weight in our scale to make victory sure,
And when no man is rich, no man can be poor.

—Anon (Adapted by Eureka.)

BROKEN HILL ACTIVITIES.

Rooms, Palace Buildings, Sulphide Street.

Wednesday Evening, at 7.30 p.m.—Educational Class.

Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Business Meeting.

Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Economic Class.

Sunday, at 7.30 p.m.—Outdoor Propaganda Meeting, near Post Office, in Argent-street.

Good Library. Also good collection of Literature for sale. All live rebels welcome.

E. J. KIELY, Secretary,
Local No. 3, I.W.W.

SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

For

"DIRECT ACTION."

Enclosed please find P.O. for 4s., for which please send "Direct Action" for one year to the following address:—

Name.....

Address.....

Fill it in NOW!

Labor and Love.

It is well-known to all that the A.W.U. pursues a policy of "peace at any price," and believes in settling industrial disputes by arbitration rather than by the strike, but that its leaders should be found endorsing the enervating and dangerous doctrine of love and friendship towards the boss is a sure sign of decay.

That working-class leaders should even listen to such sentimental slush as "love your enemies" should rouse all live working-men to action.

To hear the class-war deprecated, and Jesus Christ morality extolled in these days of industrial turmoil, would be amusing if it were not so tragic.

A Mr. Washburn, who has played a big part in A.W.U. affairs at Mildura, and has been prominent in criticising the I.W.W., has just lately dished up some awful gut-rot, that must have made any live rebel within hearing vomit with disgust.

The revolution, according to this leading light, will never be brought about by a propaganda of hate. We must stamp out all talk about the class-war, and work along lines of peace and harmony with all sections of the community. Hate and bitterness must be abolished and love and good-will established.

One can easily understand such putrid sentiment coming from Mr. Washburn, who owns a block of land, and some day hopes to become a big-gun boss cocky, but that such a slavish and servile doctrine should be supported by A.W.U. officials only shows more clearly what the slaves can expect from that political lay-out.

One has not got to have a great knowledge of industrial history to know how the boss loves the slaves. One has only to think of the doings of the industrial kings in every country in the world to get some idea of the way the master-class extends the hands of good-will to the slaves.

The Capitalist class has resorted to every available means of oppression to force the working-class into submission. Every weapon possible has been used against the toilers whenever they raised their voices in protest against their conditions.

The sack, the black list, jail, persecution, and execution, are some of the methods used by the human cultures against working class agitators.

The exploiters of labor are ever willing to pay, and pay well, anyone who will preach peace and contentment to the slaves and oppose the methods of direct action. It is therefore time that the working-class ceased paying high salaries to individuals who are busy preaching Capitalist morality and neglecting working-class philosophy.

So long as the slaves look upon the boss as a friend and someone to be loved, so long will they be plundered and robbed of what their labor has produced, and be destined to lives of unemployment, poverty and suffering, while the parasites in society are revelling in all the good things which Labor has produced.

Despite the howls from union officials, the I.W.W. will continue to advocate the class-war and discontent; yes, and even hate. Hatred for the Capitalist system and all its attendant evils; hatred for Capitalist morality and all its upholders; hatred for the crowd who travel under the name of "Labor," and advocate doctrines of love and peace to an outraged and starved working-class.

No one who works for wages can afford to be content with his present conditions; nor can he support such a disastrous doctrine as peace between master and slave and be true to his class.

The A.W.U. has shown itself to be not only useless, but dangerous to the working-class. It is only playing with Capitalism, and any attempt to damage the present system is smothered by highly-paid officials.

The I.W.W. organises upon the basis of the class-war. We believe that "there can be no peace so long as hunger, and want are found among millions of the working people, and the few who make up the employing class have all the good things of life."

The I.W.W. is waging an uncompromising fight against Capitalism and all its satellites. We will never cease until we have complete control of industry. We ask all who believe in that fight to join with us and help to give Capitalism its death-blow.

N.R.

Love of Liberty by Australians.

(A. MACK).

W. J. Chidley is still in Kenmore Asylum. The fact that any man may be railroaded because of his ideas is proof positive that conditions obtain here which will parallel anything in the way of despotism extant in any other country of the world, and the action of the authorities in incarcerating this man by underhand methods is a direct, impudent challenge to our ever boasted claim to be the freest country on the globe.

In spite of all our brag about our love for Freedom, we see the practices of the Spanish Inquisition and the French Sorbonne repeated on our citizens of the 20th century, and not a word of protest from the great mass of the people. If we have any regard for human liberty why was Chidley ever allowed to be snatched up and flung into a mad-house? The fact is that in reality we who prate so much about our Freedom don't give a damn about Liberty; we repeat the different phrases as a child does prayers, without thinking; we are so apathetic in the face of tyranny that we complacently watch a man waste and rot in gaol or a lunatic asylum, and feel neither disgust nor anger at our own inaction or his torture.

Mr. Chidley is the victim of the blackest conspiracy ever hatched by the myrmidons of cant in this continent. The politicians of our great democracy (!) country are a craven set of thorough political curs, too sordidly mean and cowardly to raise their voices or to challenge the high-handed actions of the professional clique of human blood-suckers, and of the reactionary element in our country, and since these charlatans of Freedom cannot scrape together enough manhood to "make a stand" in the interests of human Liberty when the occasion arrives, the people themselves must act; and what do they intend to do?

Just a hundred years ago in France, Jean Baptiste Lamarek, for proclaiming his belief in the "Transformation of Species," in the teeth of violent, spleen opposition from the university lecturers, was slandered, ridiculed, and hounded to a pauper's death by the prototypes of the men now training their puritanical batteries on Chidley and his ideas. Lamarek's theory is now a universally accepted fact, and Lamarek's name lives on and will live on to the end of human time. A writer of the time exclaims: "Lamarek, thy abandonment, sad as it was in thy old age, is better than the ephemeral glory of men who maintain their reputation by sharing in the errors of the time."

In Lamarek's time, the people made no boast of Freedom; they scarcely knew what was happening and they watched with stupid wonder "persecution of a man whose name now decorates the annals of human progress. Will history repeat itself?

While not pretending that Chidley is unquestionably correct in what he avers, still his arguments are logical and the possibility is that he will be proved to be absolutely right; at any rate he has not been refuted by science. He has been calumniated, ridiculed and personally attacked, it is true, but these are not arguments and the big minds of science will have none of them.

From Christ to Chidley is a gap of near 2000 years, and right across that stretch of time the records of man are smeared with tragedies, the relentless persecution of opinions, or of the men whose brains had the audacity to give new ideas birth. The incarceration of Mr. Chidley is nothing but an attempt to stifle his ideas and the record of this persecution must forever blacken the pages of Australian history, and leave an indelible smudge on the escutcheon of Australian Democracy.

The case against Chidley relied largely upon the (so called) evidence of Dr. Davidson, lecturer in mental diseases at Sydney University; Dr. A. Cahill and Dr. C. Ross, though there is a widely credited opinion that his fate was sealed before a word of evidence was taken. Dr. Davidson opined that Chidley was insane because—

- (1) He was honest.
- (2) He wanted to make other people believe as he did.
- (3) He went to a newspaper office to acquaint them of his arrest.

Dr. Cahill thought him insane because he held to his opinion (evidently "in the face of persecution" he meant to say).

Dr. Ross seems to have decided he was insane merely because he (Ross) thought he was.

I have known Mr. Chidley for some years, but never have I heard him make use of the statements reckoning with the stupidity and humbug which characterized the evidence of these alleged intellectual gentry.

A little while ago I visited Mr. Chidley to find out the facts of the allegations hurled at him by Mr. Black. At the time of their utterance I considered these obscure unproven charges to touch the base of contemptibility; what I think now it would perhaps be wise not to say.

Re the charge of "broken promises," I will quote Mr. Chidley's own words. He said:—

"Mr. Black is not stating facts when he says I made promises I did not keep. I never promised to leave N.S.W., or to go to America. Once when I was in Long Bay prison I wrote Dr. Sinclair and told him if he would have my sentence remitted I would leave the State, and asked him at the same time to come and see me. He ignored my letter and my appeal. The Rev. Mr. Heffernan had a month of my sentence remitted by the State Governor, and yet Dr. Sinclair says I was morally bound to leave the State. I asked at the gaol whether my leaving the State was a condition of my discharge, and was told, 'No; the only stipulation is that you be of good behaviour.' I think it is cowardly of Mr. Black to put a sane man here and then tell lies about him."

Mr. Chidley maintains that he was put in the asylum because of his book, which has been formally criticised—but not refuted—and every word of which he still stands by.

He says, "What chance have I against the B.M.A., every member of which appears to live in fear of that powerful ring, and seems bound as though by professional etiquette to repeat what any one of the members has said."

And truly now, what chance has he against the B.M.A., when Mr. Griffith finds that the medicals union is more than he can handle?

The charge of insanity is a subterfuge to gull the people, and thus enable the more easily to play its dirty hand. They had to "get" him; no matter how; but they had to "get" him. They wanted to get rid of him because he holds and propagates opinions which collide with the orthodox. What they have done to Chidley they will do to any one who attempts to advance beyond the barriers set up by these best of citizens and last words in wisdom. The time has come for Australians to prove that their oft claimed love of Liberty is something real: the dust of the ages of tyranny, hypocrisy and ignorance is gathering in our own back yard, while the handmaids of despotism and burglars of human Freedom are masquerading in our midst. Now is the time for the people to prove their love for Freedom. What do they intend to do?

CHIDLEY'S CASE.

PROTEST FROM MILDURA.

At a meeting of the rebels held here today, 20th, the following resolution was carried, and duly sent on to the Minister for Justice:—"That this meeting of Industrial Workers of the World emphatically protest against what they consider an act of injustice, and an outrage upon the rights and liberties of a fellow-citizen of Sydney in the incarceration of W. J. Chidley in a lunatic asylum."

"They consider that the evidence of insanity was insufficient to support such a conclusion. And, furthermore, that Chidley, is a victim of a section of the medical profession, to whose interests it is to foster a state of sexual ignorance and disease, which Chidley, as a public writer and speaker has tried to combat."

"And holding the unshaken opinion that Chidley is perfectly sane, they demand his immediate release."

At the usual "Pleasant Sunday Afternoon," held here yesterday by the A.W.U. officials (which by the way mostly consists of singing patriotic songs and delivering back-scratching addresses to the cocky and small business element). I requested leave to use their platform for putting a similar resolution to the public, but the £1 a day parasites were evidently unwilling to give any prominence to an I.W.W. agitator, so refused to allow me to speak. However, upon my further pressing the matter, one of their own number addressed the audience and moved my resolution in a much mutilated form.

Anyhow my object was attained, the resolution was carried, and will be sent on to Hall in due course. So these blind leaders of the blind are welcome to any little publicity or personal advertisement they may think they have gained for themselves.

THOMAS O'CONNOR.

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. Kieley, 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, Wooloon-Gabba, 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 ones on the road to effective speaking. It is held every Saturday at 7.15 p.m., at 330 Castlereagh Street.

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

Mr. Atkinson and the I. W. W.

NEW METHODS DEvised TO MEET NEW SITUATION, ARE "IMMORAL," SAYS MR. ATKINSON.

By H. CHRISTOPHERSON.

Mr. Meredith Atkinson is one of our respected pillars of society. He has come to Australia to teach us the ethics of a country which has its traditions, its ambitions, and its halo of glory, and which naturally would be alarmed if any of these were in danger.

Under the circumstances it is only natural that Mr. Atkinson should tell us that anything which might tend to endanger this ideal is immoral. He speaks the truth! It is immoral from his standpoint. When he condemns the tactics of the I.W.W. in the "Sunday Times" of March 19, he is right from the standpoint of the class in whose interests he is working. The I.W.W. tactics are destructive to the governing class in the present system. Therefore they are considered immoral by the governing class.

But does it necessarily follow that the I.W.W. methods are immoral from the point of view of the wage-workers? I think not. When the employing class and its representatives speak of the working class adopting theories and methods which will be destructive to the workers themselves, we should at least be a little careful in accepting the statements as made in the interest of the workers. It is worth while to look beyond the assertions, and to scrutinise the facts on which they are based.

Mr. Atkinson considers criticism and contradiction abusive. But we may let that pass with the reminder that the art is not unknown to Mr. Atkinson.

Let us not forget that it is not likely that the workers would adopt tactics which they think are injurious to themselves. If they advocate the slow down process it is probable that the employers are not blameless. There is at times a real need for advocating going slow. Modern machinery is run at high pressure, and it should be realised that if the workers are not on the constant look-out they would gradually be worked into a pace which would be as destructive to the industrial classes as the starvation wages in England in the hungry forties. Of course, I do admit that it would be an excellent thing for those who do not work, if they could get others to work hard and to work long hours.

There is one thing critics like Mr. Atkinson overlook. Large industries have become trustified, or have become government and corporation concerns and are run under an iron discipline. Once a worker is victimised by the government or by a trust there is little hope for him to save himself from the abyss of misery and starvation. This brutality on the part of business administration, be it government or private, calls for new methods on behalf of organised labor. Recent history in France and elsewhere has shown that the government is a more brutal taskmaster than private concerns, and that it will stop short of nothing to crush its employees into submission. Why then complain if the workers devise new methods to meet new forms of oppression? Mr. Atkinson professes to be horrified at the workers adopting the only methods which are possible of application in the new situation. Does he expect the workers to become mere chattels in the hands of a few highly paid officials? Or does he imagine that the new form of corporate exploitation is less oppressive than the previous individualistic exploitation?

As for the methods being ineffective and unscientific, the very fact that Mr. Atkinson and others have found it necessary to sound a bell of warning proves that some effects of the kind the workers expect are visible. These effects may be considered mischievous by the governing classes, but they are not necessarily so, if the welfare of the working class is our concern. That it will be more difficult to pile up public debts and company capital, and draw interest and dividends on it may be true. But of that the workers are not particularly sorry. Their concern is rather to make it difficult for people to live on invested capital and to get as much of the wealth they create as possible. If that is immoral, the whole of the methods of the I.W.W. are immoral; but it is not necessarily immoral because it does not receive the official stamp of the possessing class.

As for the methods lowering the standard of living of the workers, it is difficult to see how they can do that, seeing

that the general standard is only a subsistence one. The waste and prodigality and the misapplication of energy at present are so great that the workers are worse off than ever, and nothing can prevent the waste of wealth and the number of social parasites to increase, except the refusal of the workers to be further enslaved. Mr. Atkinson's advice, that the workers should submit tamely to the extreme limit of exploitation is therefore not likely to be followed.

Fair Rents.

By "AJAX."

Recently a new court has been established under "The Fair Rents Act." According to Mr. Holman the new tribunal "is now dispensing justice and shillings to rack-rented tenants." This sounds well at election time, but unfortunately the sedate "Herald" (which represents vested interests) in a leading article recently admits that the court cannot cope with the cases, and further hints that the landlords are taking time by the forelock to advance their interests at the expense of the tenant.

In Sydney one hears on every hand wailing and lamentation ament the exorbitant rents. People talk about "rent" as if it were a tangible commodity or thing that grew in the night. Considering the small population in Australia the rents here are very high, much higher comparatively than they are in older countries. Here in Sydney numerous speculators and land sharks are charging as much as £2 a week rent for an elongated duncekin, which is politely designated a suburban villa. Everywhere in the town one sees the notice, "Rooms To Let," in windows. There are large numbers of people who try to let off one or more rooms to help pay the rent. It is not that they want lodgers; doubtless in many cases the tenants would prefer to have the house to themselves, but they cannot afford to pay the exorbitant rent. Since the war thousands of men have joined the military, thus indirectly robbing many struggling tenants of their lodgings. The much banded "Fair Rents Court" takes no cognisance of that fact. Apparently the most a tenant can hope for is, after much legal delay and expense, to obtain a slight reduction in rent.

Long ago Ricardo showed up the robbery of rent. Even from a conservative standpoint the landlord cannot justify his existence. The capitalist does take some risks and is liable to suffer loss if he makes mistakes. On the other hand the landlord is simply a tax-gatherer, exhorting toll from society for the privilege of living in his house. It's only legally his property. The tenant is in possession, and even orthodox will admit that possession is nine-tenths of the law. The tenant is responsible for the property. In about 12 years he pays in rent the value of the house and can be turned out at the landlord's pleasure. Meanwhile labour and population enhance the property to a fictitious value so that we see the ridiculous spectacle of workers in the building trade who build all the houses, but as a class own none, paying nearly a third of their wages for the privilege of living in the houses that they build.

No court can deal with the question, no court has ever attempted to seriously stop the rent robbery. As long as a few men own the land they will be in a position to exploit the tenants.

The landlord's position is extremely weak. His property is fixed capital, and he is not in possession. Even in individual cases of defaulters it is very difficult for the landlord to recover rent. In the case of the tenants to any number refusing to pay, it is next to impossible to "get the goods." The other alternative, eviction, cannot be carried out on a large scale. Even suppose it could be done without fear of retaliation, there are strong reasons against it.

Instead of eringing to courts and petitioning politicians (mostly landlords), the tenants could combine and demand an immediate reduction on threat of refusal to pay any rent. Such action alone would probably force the landlords to agree to a considerable reduction, for it is difficult to see what else they could do.

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.

Don't forget that all Efficiency and Speeding-up schemes are put forward in the interests of the boss. You and he have nothing in common.

Is the Preamble Sound The Problem of War

By A. E. BROWN.

The word "amble" comes from "ambulance," running; and "preamble" means, therefore, to run before. Thus the Preamble of the I.W.W. is a herald announcing the decrees of the new society.

The Preamble states that the working and employing class have nothing in common. Is this correct? The employer is dependent on the worker for labor, and the worker on the employer for capital and money. Now, then, can they be said to have nothing in common? A bond of union is created by the mere exchange of commodities, as we see in the case of the shopkeeper and his customers. Capitalism in its later developments is so complex that it would be impossible to maintain its intricate relationships were it not for the bond of union woven throughout society. Without community of interest modern capitalism would be impossible.

The "Preamble" postulates the class struggle. No class struggle can exist where there is community of interest. Craft Unionism denies the necessity for overthrowing Capitalism, thus showing that community of interest does exist between employer and employed.

On the other hand, it may be claimed that craft unionists evidence the class struggle they deny, else why strike.

Again, the Preamble postulates the General Strike. The latter is impossible. Some must remain on the job. Also, as regards the abolition of the wage-system. Gold could be abolished as a standard of exchange, and paper money takes its place, but some form of remuneration must exist. The wage-system may be changed, but cannot be abolished.

Organising for the everyday struggle with NINE Gdents? get adSrted Ta

Capitalism implies the use of Sabotage. Sabotage is most injurious to the small employer. By rendering him impotent we increase the army of the unemployed, thus intensifying the evils we seek to alleviate. Retaliation by the boss would be most injurious to the worker.

Instead of deploring the fact that the craft unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another in the same industry we should rather uphold them in so doing, as they give free scope to the law of the survival of the fittest, and show their belief in the dictum that "might is right."

Capitalism, however, pits man against machine, and centralises industry. The I.W.W. is a basic form of Evolution which organises workers as a class. If workers are intelligent enough to abolish the wage-system, they will be intelligent enough to put something in its place.

Criticism and discussion followed, and a most interesting evening was spent.

—A. E. BROWN.

Another member of the speakers' class, Fellow-Worker Johnson, writes with reference to the above points:—

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common, seeing that the worker has only one thing to sell, that is, his Labor Power.

The employer desires to give the worker less than the value of what he produces, and the worker wants more than the mere value of his labor-power, which value is equivalent to the bare means of subsistence. It is here where there is nothing in common.

As for there being no class struggle, it was pointed out that the struggle was at the point of production, where the worker wants more of what labor-power creates.

The supporters of the preamble further showed that it was not sabotage on the part of the workers that forced the small employer into the ranks of the unemployed, but it was the concentration of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands, aided largely by improved industrial machinery.

As a small employer of labor there are only two alternatives, one is to get in line if possible with the larger capitalists or fall into the ranks of the working class.

Some speakers, in referring the law of the "survival of the fittest," stated that the workers were the "fittest" because they create all the good things of life by their labor.

The I.W.W. maintains that nothing will be conceded by the employers except that which we have the power to take and hold by the might of the organisation, therefore, we want possession of the earth and the machinery of production.

ADELAIDE READERS.

can obtain copies of "Direct Action" and Industrialist Literature from Charlie Russell, bootmaker, Gibson-street, Bowden, Adelaide.

War is useful to the capitalist class as a means:—

- (a) Of keeping down surplus population;
- (b) Of creating division among workers;
- (c) Of checking their rising aspirations.

Although war causes frightful devastation, it is doubtful if it would pay capitalists to abolish it. In addition to the vast profits made during waging of warfare, the repairing of the destruction caused by war gives opportunity for a further exploitation of labour.

In the event, however, of capitalists deciding to abolish war, the first objective given above, (a), might be attained by capitalists allowing to be spread among the people a knowledge of eugenics; the second, (b), by exploiting with increased intensity the religious and political fields; and as to the third, (c), the concentration of the vast accumulations of surplus value in industry might possibly render the upkeep of a military force unnecessary, as capitalists could then afford to alleviate in a considerable degree the workers' lot.

The two ways by which war may be abolished are:—

- (1) By workers assuming control of industry, and producing for use instead of profit, which means of course, the abolition of the capitalist system;
- (2) By the formation of an international capitalist trust for enforcing the principle of Arbitration in international disputes.

The first solution of the difficulty given above lies at present on the knees of the gods; but in the event of the workers refusing at any time to wage war, the second solution is the only way out for Capitalism.

Assuming (1) that capitalists could not get workers to fight; or (2) that capitalists themselves decided to abolish war: How would the Trust operate?

In the commercial arena the trust has been found practicable. When companies are cutting their own throats by excessive competition, representatives of those companies come together and agree to put control of that particular industry in the hands of a central executive. By this method stability is afforded for purposes of price regulation. The peace trust would operate in a similar way. Representatives of the nations would agree to centre control of armaments in the hands of a chosen executive. These armaments would be simply for the purpose of enforcing the principle of Arbitration in international disputes, and would be on a comparatively small scale. On the formation of this executive the nations would proceed to disarm. After this disarmament, any nation trying surreptitiously to form an army or navy would find itself immediately up against the Trust.

This solution of the war problem is practicable, and Capitalism may yet come to it.

It is unlikely, however, that any attempts will be made in this direction until capitalists find that workers have a growing distaste, dislike and horror for war, culminating in a positive refusal to fight. Until that time comes, the war problem on this basis cannot be solved. For why should capitalists seek to abolish war, if they can get workers to fight with facility, and incidentally make for themselves vast profits out of the business? In any case, we see that the real solution of the War Problem is in the hands of the working class.

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.

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.