# We Want Money! Money!

# EABOTA(

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October 21, 1916.

# Hughes at Ballarat.

Mr. Discredited and Disgruntled Hughes at Ballarat on the 9th instant:—
"But the L.W.W. and some other organisations do not stop at such tactics, but go-much farther. They not only preach but practice sabotage; that is to say the wilful destruction of factories. Mr. Discredited and must mery, and plant. Nor do they stop even here: but, for reasons that will be obvious to every citizen of the Commonobvious to every citizen of the Common-wealth in the course of the next few days, I will not now catalogue their crimes, except to remind the people of the Com-mon earth that they are to a man anti-conscriptionists. These men have perindustrial and political unionism to their own base purposes. I hope that the workers will arise while there is yet time and put these men out. (Cheers.) They are all anarchists and enemies of They are all anarchists and enemies of society. I invite you to read the press difficulty during the next day or two. I

ddig ntly during the next day or two. I inside those with whom I have been associated for 20 years to consider what company they keep."

Mr. Hughes has quite made up his mind as to whether members of the LW.W. are guilty or not of the "crimes" with which they are charged. It is merely an incident that these men have to with which they are charged. It is merely an incident that these men have to be tried, the accusation is more than sufficient.

it any other person made the state-ments that Mr. Hughes made at Bullarat he would be guilty of contempt of court, for discussing, criticising, or even sug-gesting publicly that men are guilty until gesting puonety that men are guilty until they have been submitted to a trial be-fore a judge and jury. Mr. James, the barrister for the defence, this morning called attention in the court to the flaunt-ing of the law by Hughes. He said: "They are all anarchists and enemies of society." If law flaunting be anarchism, then are an anarchists and enemies of society." If law flaunting be anarchism, then llughes himself is an anarchist, and an "enemy of society." If an I.W.W. man is an "enemy of society," who aims at the overthrow of the diabolical system of exploitation, then what shall we term one who has assisted in the jettisoning of every fundamental and rational human liberty; who is aiming at sheakling the y: who is aiming at shackling the of Australian people with industrial and military conscription, and who is the chosen darling of the industrial despots of

chosen darling of the industrial despots of the country?

"They preach and practice sabotage."
Yes: the I.W.W. aims at the shortening of hours, the restriction of the output, and the development of industrial power in the workshop. Is not the imposing lughes a saboteur? Who sabotaged the referendum? Who threatens to override the will of the people if the conscription referendum is not carried? Who has repeatedly stood for the gaoling of men who think and act differently to the established order?

Is the abrogation of liberty an act of sabotage? Is compelling men to wear uniforms against their conscientious instincts an act of sabotage? When Mr. Hughes says: "I invite those

am act of sabotage?
When Mr. Hughes says: "I invite those with whom I have been connected for 20 years to consider what company they keep." we reply, and ask them to consider what company Mr. Hughes keeps. The time has gone by for ever far apologising for the actions of the ruling class, who are the real "enemies of society."
When the workers resent the everyday violence perpetrated upon them the horrifiel and sanctimonious erew and their lickspittle toadies lift their blood-stained, profit-mongering hands in the air with horror. But, oh, Hughes and my masters. Beware of what you do! Prisons, and hunger and gallows will not save your ruling class. Nor stifling human thought. Nor limiting human actions. Organise! organise!!! ye toilers all. Develop your power, ye "enemies of society," ye "anarchists," ye "mad,

blind men that see."

Let Hughes rave, and the daily press howl. The new unionism is the factor that will rescue society from the fiendish clutches of the profit ghouls and the tighteners of bonds. It will release the child slave from the factory of "society," it will give to womanhood a noble future, it will tear away from the limbs of man the grinding and siekening chains of economic servitude.

Yes, we are "enemies of (capitalist) so-ciety." But so are all men and women who can think and do for themselves.

And the gool gates clang upon our fellow workers, as they have clanged on me, They will still have better company than Mr. Hughes has kept for the past two

TOM BARKER. 403 Sussex-street, Sydney.

# The 'Age' on strikers.

The Melbourne "Age," which has grown rich on the pennies of the working class, has again thought fit to abuse the striker. In a recent issue it prints the following :-

"Let the law resolutely brand the strike for what it is—open rebellion. No man can be at the same time a member of so-ciety and a rebel against it. It is nonsense to say that society cannot imprison the striker. It can do so with just the same ease as it did the Sinn Feiners, who have been arrested to the extent of several thou-sands. The first thing is to educate publie opinion to the true anti-social malignity of the strike, so that a striker may be classed and catalogued with other criminals. If to break all the laws of the social mais. It to break alt the laws of the social compact is to be a criminal, the striker is, amongst the worst. Once the duellist, the poacher and the snuggler were all good-humoredly tolerated. Now they are felons. So should be the striker, and so he must be before we shall purge ourselves of his thries-accused strikes."

of his thrice-accused strikes. Puting aside the malicious and mediaeval tone of the above, it is incomprehensible to think that the "Age" is unaware sible to think that the "Age is an and of the fact that strikes are primarily the direct result of the rapacity of capitalists, when advertise in the "Age." many of whom advertise in the "Age." Evidently the "Age" only refers to strikes of workers. No doubt, if the advertisers of the "Age" struck against the public—the people the "Age" professes to represent—raising the cost of commodities by market rigging, sabotaging foodstuffs, and other devious devices these tactics would, in the eyes of the "Age" be legitimate legitimate in the eyes of the "Age" be legitimate business. These people would not be classed as criminals, they would be enterprising capitalists. The distinction is so fine that it is difficult to detect the difference. Not so, thinks the "Age," which barracks for "Freedom of contract," and other shiphaletts of contraits, while debarracks for "Freedom of contract," and other shibboleths of capitalism, while denouncing strikers as breakers of the social compact. The paper fails to explain what is meant by social compact. If the relationship between sweater and worker is implied it is hardly necessary to remind the "Age" that labour is simply a commodity on the market, which the capitalist, taking advantage of economic conditions, practically forces the worker to sell at the former's price. If the latter refuses to sell his by the series of the latter refuses to sell his labour power he is quite within his rights in doing so. Doubtless, if a law was passed compelling the "Age's" advertisers to sell at a fixed price we should hear much from the tory sheet anent the sacred.

ness of private enterprise and the tyranny of Labour Governments.

It is true the duellist, pencher and smag gler have had their day, but unfortunately the militarist, profit-grinder, and swindler have taken their places, albeit the Tory press find it convenient to ignore the activities of these gentry. The formers were alleged felons, the latter now are the

ness of private enterprise and the tyranny

felons, and sad to relate, they find the advertising columns of the "Age" a useful a useful medium wherewith to perpetrate their machinations against society, annualful of that sear old "social compact" that the

that slear old "social compact" that the "Age" is professedly so takious about. It certainly would be a good idea to educate the people "to the irrae aritisecial malignity of the strike." Unfortunately, maignity or the strike. Unfortunitely, Tory papers carefully avoid any reference to the true nature of strikes. The "Age" during all these years it has waxed wealthy on the pennies of the poor has never yet-and judging by present indications never will—educate the public on these matters. Strikes are world-wide, and have existed incompanies of wealths and the residence of the strikes are world-wide, and have existed

Strikes are world-wide, and have existed irrespective of creeds, countries, or erimes. History is full of cases of repressive laws passed against strikes. In the past every torture or punishment that 'granny could devise has been inflicted on strikers, but men still strike. Brutality and oppression mere purged society of strikes, and never will the "Age," to the contrary netwith-standing. These ideas of treating strikers as criminals belong to the barbarie past, when ignorance attributed to individuals' faults, which are the result of an insane

social system of production, which the Tory press support.

Apparently the "Age" weald gleefully if nessible revert back to feudal despotism Securingly the paper is trying to educate public epinion to that end. Public epinion that one production has outgrown such conservative conceptures and it is said to see a guaranteed are has outgrown such conservative concep-tions, and it is sad to see a supposed pro-gressive paper in democratic Australia in the twentieth century advocating ideas which belong exclusively to the dark ages, in fact, conceptions confined to a dead age and the Melbourne "Age."

AJAX.

# General Strike in Spain

## REVOLT OF THE RAILWAY WORKERS.

Victory over Government and Army. Workers Use Sympathetic Strike and Obstruction.

Obstruction.

The Norweigan press recently had small pars alluding to an extended strike on the Spanish railways. Fuller details have now come to hand through the medium of Swiss and French newspapers.

According to these papers, there has been a rapid increase in the cost of living in Spain, which the workers endeavoured to nullify by demanding an increase in wages. This was refused by the railroad managements, to which the workers replied by a general stoppage of work, tying up the whole of the railways in the country.

The Spanish Government adopted the The Spanish Government adopted the same methods for breaking the strike as the French authorities did during the 1910 railway strike. The strikers were com-pelled to return to work as conscripts, and the trains were run under martial

The workers seeing that the masters were following the lead of the French ruling class, resolved to emulate their French fellow-workers' tactics. The min-

French fellow-workers' tacties. The min-ers in the province of Asturia also struck in sympathy with the railway workers. Many melees took place between the strikers and the police, and many arrests were made. Fellowing upon these arrests the strike extended into other industries, which resulted in the workers obtaining the upper hand. The Government stepped in and compelled the railway magnates sent their representatives to meet the workers and grant their demands. The result was that all demands for wages were granted, all arrested persons were freed, the workers' press that had been confis-cated, was returned, and no one was victimised.

It has often been asserted in Scandina-

via, that the Spanish workers don't know how to organise, but it is quite evident that there is abundant solidarity abroad there, and without solidarity there can be

The sympathetic strike, and solidarity are the basis of greater working class

power. (Translated roughly from "Direkte Aktion," Norway.)

# News and Notes.

The local activities were well maintained during the past week. Meetings were held at Newtown Bridge on Friday and Saturday evenings. The crowds were sympathetic and sales of literature good.

On Sunday we held our usual Domain On Sunday we held our usual Domain meeting under peculiar circumstances. The authorities stopped our permit to take up a collection and sell papers in the park. Our domain meeting was well attended by the police, their ring of white helmets round the stump lent an air of enchantment to the scene—a bucket received donations to the extent of over 20 pounds. The attempt to block the sale of "Direct Action" was really of considerable help to the paper, as there was such as able help to the paper, as there was such a demand for it that a record sale of the paper was recorded.

In the evening Barker and Ward lec-tured to a crowded audience. The addresses were thoroughly appreciated by the audience, who showed their apprecia-ation in a practical manner by contribu-ting over £25 to the collection.

The treason trial drags on wearily and is likely to be a tedious affair, involving heavy expense. Funds are needed to defend these men and provide for their dependents. Christ was crucified for treason, and on the strength of it soul snatchers have cadred many millions from the son, and on the strength of it soul snatchers have cadged many millions from the public. We rattle no boxes for Jesus-sake, but we do say that men who are likely to be crucified for their adherence to work-Ving class principles are deserving of help.

We are not prone to indulge in invec-tive abuse with the gutter press of Syd-ney, but as there have been so many com-plaints anent the "Mirror's" scurrilous attacks on us, we give the "Mirror" its answer to-day.

Collections raised at Stanwell Park, Otford Otford Camp, Thirroul, Hellensburg, Bulli, and Scarborough to date total £12.

The treason case, which lasted over a week, terminated last Monday. After listening to cousel the judge decided that a prima facie case had been made out, and committed all the accused to take their trial on October 23. Bail was refused.

Our inequality materialises our upper class, vulgarises our middle class, brutal-ises our lower class.—Matthew Arnold.

"THE MIRROR" AND GERMAN
GOLD.

The howling of the "Mirror," a local comic paper much in demand by the juvenile population, about the I.W.W. German gold is enough to make a tabby take to hydatids.

We implore Grandpa Myers to ask the We implore Grandpa Myers to ask the police department to allow him to explore the I.W.W. books captured during the recent raid. He will get all the proof there, and he will be able to show how Tom Barker has been living at Kosciusko, and where Tom Glynn acquired his 40 horse power Panhard.

And we suggest seriously that that the office boy in the "Mirror" office be given the job of writing the editorials in future.

T.B.

# DIRECT



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

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# The Anstey Letter.

The Napoleonic William at his gyra-The Napoleonic William at his gyra-tions at the City Hill, Hobart, showed a new and interesting side light upon his character. In his usual vitriolic attacks upon the I.W.W. he "read out a copy of the following letter, addressed to your humble servant :

"House of Representatives My Dear Barker,—I am with you to the hilt. I wish you could send me a copy of those posters. Good luck to you.—Anstey."

copy of those posters. Good nex to you.—Anstey."

The obvious purpose of reading this out shows that William is anxious to connect the I.W.W. up with Mr. Anstey, or vice versa. Why didn't Mr. Hughes go to the trouble of explaining that this letter was written over thirteen months ago, and that the Labor Party or the LW.W. as such.
When I was on trial, September, 1915,
for publishing the following poster:—

TO ARMS!!!

TO ARMS!!!
CAPITALISTS, PARSONS.
POLITICIANS, LANDLORDS,
NEWSFAPER EDITORS.
AND OTHER STAY-AT-HOME
PATRIOTS, YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS
YOU IN THE TRENCHES,
WORKERS, FOLLOW YOUR
MASTERS!

WASTERS!

I was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. While awaiting on bail for the appeal to be heard I wrote the facts to Mr. Anstey, and the above letter, out of which the diminutive person makes such sensational capital, was the reply sent by Mr. Anstey to my letter. And if Mr. Anstey did wrong, then nearly every union in Australia did likewise. The row was so great that Mr. Hughes and his philanthropic friends had to cut the case out, and the appeal was upheld.

thropic triends had to cut the case out, and the appeal was upheld.

Now, Mr. Hughes, you have had a deuce of a lot to say about the LW.W. How did you come in possession of a copy of a private letter?

Did you get a copy from the police headquarters, after they raided the I.W.W. Hall in Sus-

sex-street?

If the Prime Minister uses methods like these, why need the most diabolical, malicious, and much hated I.W.W. man hang his head?

TOM BARKER. No. 403 Sussex Street, Sydney.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS. .

Wage Slaves Matter unsuitable. H. Mercer: Thanks. J. Smith: The idea/is good, but the exe-

cution bad.
T. Hytten: Unable to publish, matter

ready dealt with. H. Levy: Poem held over.

CASH IS WANTED.

For the legal defence of Fellow-work-ers Glynn, Larkin, Reeve, Grant, Bessant, McPherson, Hamilton, and Brice. Cham-pions of the working-class MUST not ret in gaol for the want of the necessary.

# ACTION The Great Secret.

THE REAL REASONS FOR CONSCRIP-TION. 1

Amid the cackle of the conscription campaign one factor stands out clearly. Con-scriptionists profess to have seen the light, a light which is said to be the result of the knowledge of a great secret. Apparently this secret is so sacred that on no account must the people be entrusted with it. This State secret is the skeleton in the cupboard State secret is the skeleton in the cuppoord only to be seen by a few of the elect under the oath of secrecy. Some of the Ministers saw the thing, and apparently don't like it. One Minister was so enamoured with the skeleton that he immediately resigned from the Cabinet! Meanwhile, the people whose lives and liberties are hanging in the balance are kent in juncarance of people whose lives and liberties are hang-ing in the balance are kept in ignorance of the sinister nature of this thing, which is referred to with awe and veneration by the erstwise darling of Lord Snottypockets, and Lady Love by night.

Whether the secret is a political bogey or some military muddle is of secondary importance. We want to know just where we stand in this matter. It all hinges upon the real reason for conscription in this

the real reason for conscription in this country, irrespective of what other coun-tries have done or intend to do in the mat-

Such an important affair fraught with so many possibilities must have some deep, underlying cause, and cannot be explained away by political plots, military measures, or national needs. These things are at best vague and indefinite entities, which are more likely to confuse than enlighten those who wish to understand the pros and cons of 'this great emergency." of this great emergency.

There are three primary reasons for con-

There are three primary reasons for conscription.

1. The subjugation of labour.

2. The bankruptey of the middle class.

3. The supremacy of the servile state.

There is no necessity to become hysterical over the halo of Hughes, the doings—of secret Juntas, or to split straws over recruiting figures, or rattle the bones of that skeleton in the cupboard. We want to remain calm in this crisis and see clearly where we stand. where we stand.

The first reason has so often been proved

The first reason has so often been proved in theory and practice that it is scarcely necessary to refer to it. The mobilisation of single men—not necessarily for military purposes—is the first step to smash the labour-organisations. The depletion of industry caused by the call to the colors provides both the opportunity and excuse for the extended use of female and child labour, and the probable introduction of alien labour. This mobilisation will also indirectly ruin sections of the middle class. How is the small shopkeeper, the boarding house keeper, the cocky farmer, and others similarly situated to carry an their businesses if the manhood to Australia is deported?

Further. Further, once conscription is in full swing it will place in the hands of the large capitalists an economic weapon to crush the middle class. The bankruptcy of small firms and the calling up of middle class people to the colors will inevitably create an economic position highly favourable to the big bond-holder and usurer. once conscription is in

The third reason needs a little explana-tion. For some time prior to the war eapitalism has drifted to national and in-ternational combines. The war, with its dislocation of trade, finance, and industry, has disturbed the economic life of the comhas disturbed the economic life of the community and burdened countries with bloated militarism and debt. Armament firms, shipping companies, usurers, and bond-holders have amassed huge fortunes, and are anxious to conserve their interests after the war. They want industrial control and financial dictatorship, so that when peace is declare they will be in a position to dominate society.

On the declaration of peace there will be

when peace is declare they will be in a position to dominate society.

On the declaration of peace there will be war bills to be met, soldiers provided for, industry and trade reorganised, and other ugly questions to be faced. The competition for the world's markets between national groups of capitalists will be very keen. Countries like Australia, with union wages and spare population, cannot hope to win in this commercial race. It would be a fine piece of statesmanship in the interests of the trusts if the better paid workers of Australia could be shipped wholesale out of the country and Asiatic indented labour poured in. Conscription can do the trick which could not be performed in any other way. Some anti-conscriptionists, reading the accounts of victories of the Allies, are at a loss to understand the alleged "need for men." Victories of the Allies, is the best possible reason why the conscriptionists (from their standpoint) should hurry up and introduce national service before the war ends. Once peace is declared the conspiracy of conscription, shorn of its military glamour, stands unmasked as a scheme of industrial

voluntaryism we have heard

despotism.

During voluntaryism we have heard much of national serwice industrial efficiency, and curtailment of the liquor traffic.

nuce of national service, industrial enterency, and curtailment of the liquor traffic.

These things are heralds of the coming storm, and are ushered in ostensibly for the public weal, but really to speed, and sober up the workers in industry. In one and the same breath pseudo patriots illogically say we must close the pubs. to stop drink, and we must have more militarism to crush militarism.

Conscription implies a society founded on coersive co-operation, such a system infers the suppression of libitarian institutions, and democratic thought, and inevitably tends to the servile state, that is, a state of society in which all except the wealthy will be relegated to that state in society in which it has pleased plutocracy in its wickedness and greet to or racy in its wickedness and greed to or-

onscription is really for ugly possibilities after the war. In previous wars we find that the ruling class repeatedly broke all promises made to lower classes. The veterans of Waterloo returned home The veterans of waterioo returned none to find the landlords had stolen the land. The South African heroes found they had fought to get the mines for the plutocrats, and the jobs for the Chinese. It is quite likely that a similar event might occur

nere.

The cry of pseudo patriots for computsion is not only dictated by the economic needs of plutocrats, but it is also psychologic. This class knows no creed but cash, no patriotism but profits, no moralists, no moralists, and moralists. cash, no patriotism but profits, no morality not expressed in money, and no God but gold. They are more intent on captaring the centres of production than military fortnesses. They are not interested to know whether conscription is undemocratic, immoral, or suicidal from the people's standpoint. There may be a thousand reassus against conscription, and only one for it. If that one reason should happen to be "that conscription suits their material interests" the other reasons don't count. reasons don't count.

If it were not for the fact that for a are it were not for the fact that for a variety of reasons Australia is a difficult country to conscript and the idea is alien to the psychology of the people, some excuse to impose conscription would have been utilised long ago.

Conscription in the last analysis springs from the wind of

from the mind of a cunning and rapa-cious class, who are imbued with the will to power, and have no scruples concern-ing ways and means to attain their ends. It is for that reason that they have endea-

It is for that reason that they have entea-coured to persecute and prosecute o-opte who are opposed to their ideas. For they know that these plutocratic ideals cannot be harmonised with reason, and can only be maintained by legalised force. Calling Mr. Hughes masty names and iosimuating that the anti-conscriptionists are traitors and Germans, does not affect the question, which is essentially a class question. What we really have to de-cide "in this great emergency" is question. What we really have to decide "in this great emergency" is whether we prefer the servile state or a democracy, that is which shall rule plu tocracy or the people.

## WORKERS' DEFENCE FUND.

T. Phillips, 8/-; J. Clark, 10/-; J. Finanda, 5/-; J. O'Malley, 5/-; 2 street col., 22/3/4½; 1 street col., £1/5/-; Shearers (per J. Hartley), £25; S. Sullivan, 10/-; street, col., £2/5/3; S. Clements, 5/-; Burns, 3/-; Fellow Worker, 2/6; C. Nelson, 4/6; F. Winzon, 2/-; J. Kelly, 10/-; H. J. Carney, 4/-; Miss Daulton, 1/6; B. Fellington, 2/-; Domain col., £11/17/8; J. Roberts, 5/-; P. Conlon, 5/-; C. Hades, 5/-; Garden Island, 1/-; Cassidy, 2/6; C. Keys, 4/-; C. Barden, 10/-; Amal. Soc. Eng., 12/3; Davis, 1/-; O. S. Ray, 5/-; C. Vincent, 2/-; Friend, 5/-; street col. Newtown, 16/9; Tom. Sheeshim, 2/-; total, £50/0/3½. Also £11 from The Amal. Soc. of Engineers, for the maintenance of of Engineers, for the maintenance of women and children of prisoners.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums collected by Fellow Worker Tom O'Loughlin at Coff's Heights, for the above Fund:—Alf. Hawkins, 11/.; P. Grant, 10/6; T. O'Loughlin, 10/.; F. Lowery, 10/.; E. Nangthon, 5/.; W. Williams, 5/.; P. Ryan, 6/.; P. Reilly, 5/.; W. Smith, 5/.; H. Scilini, 5/.; W. Marshall, 3/.; E. Kelly, 5/.; N. Linden, 2/6; F. Wilkinson, 2/.; H. Robinson, 3/.; H. Ward, 5/.; E. Williams, 5/.; W. Brown, 2/.; G. Richardson, 3/.; J. Head, 2/.; G. Wright, 2/.; B. Bradfield, 5/.; S. Bennett, 2/.; C. Christenson, 2/., Grand total, £5/16/. We have to acknowledge the receipt of total, £5/16/-.

Melbourne Local of the I.W.W. wishes it to be announced through the columns of "Direct Action" that they are now established in new quarters at 197 Russell-street (corner Little Bourke-street).

# "Mary, Pity Women,"

The "Sunday Sun" published a set of verses with this title, grossly misusing a phrase which conveys a holy meaning to many people, in the interests of the rotten, tyranous policy of conscription. The following lines are written with no desire to offend by a similar misuse of those words, but, by putting truth, instead of hysterical sentiment meant to work upon the feelings of women, to parody the the feelings of women, to parody "Sun's" monstrous outrage!

To the women of Australia is a question put to-day, (Oh, Mary, pity women!)

(On, Mary, pity women:)
And they must send the men they love to
battlefields away,
(Oh, Mary, pity women!)
To yield their lives a sacrifice to bayonet

not to gun,

For but one simple reason: Hughes declares it must be done!

And what, besides such reason, is the lossof any son?

(Oh, Mary, pity women!)

There's a bitter warfare coming when conscription has its sway, (Oh, Hary, pity women!) All the ideals Labour fought for must as-

an the ideals Labour fought for must assuredly decay; (Oh, Mary, pity women!)

For the money Lord's dominion will certainly increase,
Backed by martial regulations that their grip will not release,
While the Fat Man, smiling blandly, will declare that this is Peace.

(Oh, Mary, pity women!)

There are women who have given; there There are women who have given: there are those who have to give (Oh, Mary, pity women!)

Toil in jobs by men forsaken for the mere, bare right to live.

(Oh, Mary, pity women!)

On the fraction of the wages that the men they lost have earned.

Will the women find employment—into weary wage slaves turned—

While the man who seeks good wages—though a soldier will be spurned.

(Oh, Mary, pity women!)

(Oh, Mary, pity women!)

For the little, lovely babies, there are

dangers we must shim,
(Oh, Mary, pity women!)
There are dangers more resultive than the
far-off Prussian gum.
(Oh, Mary, pity women!)
Let us firmly hold our freedom, and refuse
to but it grant.

to let it go:

For an enemy is rampant who would lay our fair land low;

And if we fail to answer the conscription question, "No!"

(Oh, Mary, pity women!)
HAROLD MERCER. 403 Sussex Street, City.

## RESIST ALL EVIL.

Resist not evil!" How well indeed for scoundrels!

Slaves, your backs shall bend beneath their awhip in joy,
And pray it grow the stronger and the sharper.

To prove you worthy martyrs to a tyrant's adage!
O, glittering words!

O. bitter warfare, clad in peace! O. Satan, smile beneath a god's decree!

Resist not evil."

That evil grow luxuriant,
And they who perpetuate it grow rich and
strong,
Till changed shall be the dictum—
"Fools ve any't resist the evil!" Fools, ye can't resist the evil!

say, "Resist all evil!"

I say, ''Resist fill evil!'
Your cheek unturned, strike back the
blow,
The sword by sword shall answer!
''Resist all evil!'
Till evil hands fall leaden.

And evil hearts turn dust!

P. ELDRIDGE, in "Mother Earth."

## MELBOURNE ACTIVITIES.

Local No. 8, 197 Russell-street. Monday, 8 p.m.—Business Meeting. Thursday: Economic Class, 8 p.m. Friday, 8.30 p.m.: Propaganda Meeting. corner Victoria and Errol Streets, N.

Sunday.-Propaganda Meeting, Yarra Bank.

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

It is legitimate to work hard-when the boss is looking.

# Treason.

# The Decent Worker.

Greason is a general term for the crime of attacking the safety of a sovereign, state, or its head, and is precisely defined by the Treason Act of 1351. The offeness made high treason by this Act which still remain in force are (a), to compass or imagine the death of the King, the Cheen, or their eldest son and heir; the ro-violate the King's companion or their eldest son and heir; the ro-violate the King's companion or their eldest son and heir; (h) ro violate the King's companion or his eldest daughter, unmarried, or other wir of his eldest son and heir; (c) to levy war against the King within his realm or to othere to the King's enemies within his realm; and (d) to slay the Chanedlor. Treasurer, or the King's justices of the one bench or the 'other. By an Act of 1796, made perpetual in 1817, treason is further defined so as to include a plot to cause death, destruction, wounding, imnumer denned so as to medide a plot to cause death, destruction, wounding, im-prisonment, or restraint of the King, if such plots are made by the publishing of a any printing or writing, or by any overt (open) act or deed.

any printing or writing, or by any overt (open) act or deed.

By the Treason Felony Act of 1348 it was made a felony to (a) plot to deprive or depose the King from the style, etc., of the Imperial Court of the United Kingdom; (b) to levy war against the King in order by force or constraint to change his measure or counsel, or to put force or constraint on, or to intimidate or overawe rither or both Houses of Parliament, This Act does not abrogate hat support awe either or both Houses of Parliament. This Act does not abrogate, but supplements the Act of 1351. The words "open and advised speaking" were removed in 1871, and it is now clearly agreed by common law that spoken words do not in themselves constitute an overt act or deed, but may be taken as evidence of the intention of accused to commit such an act. A point of great importance to us as at present is, treason is not a bailable charge, except with the consent of the King, while treason, felony, sedition, or solitions utterances are all bailable.

A. J. WALLACE.

# Statement of Principles.

The working class and the employing class are nothing in common. There can be no ence so long as hunger and want are found

pence 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 rines, take possession of the earth and the sachinery of production, and abolish the wage vesters.

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

These conditions can be changed and the interests of the working class upheld only by

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.

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 watchworl: "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working las to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organised not only for the everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry or production when capitalisms shall 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.

## AS OTHERS SEE US.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

It is idle to deny the force and the rapid spread of the doctrines of the I.W.W. They are spreading at a rate that is really appalling; and the war, and the slump that may follow, are giving-and will give them an increased impetus. The actual membership of the I.W.W. organisation may seem insignificant, but its more or less constant followers in Sydney alone number between 20,000 and 30,000, and they are in numbers in all the unions—the more dangerous because the I.W.W. man is everywhere the most energetic as a doctrinaire, and the most enthusiastic. According to a recent issue of the "Herald," the organisation in New York was threatening to call out two millions transport workers. The point to make the public think is they could have done it.—"S. M. Herald."

While following various occupations, I have too frequently come across wage slaves who liked to hear their masters speaking nicely about them, and calling them by that (to them) all-endearing title "decent workers." These few lines are penned to the everlasting disgrace and cannation of the Decent Worker. The decent worker is the worker who is possessed with the capitalistic spirit—the bosses man. The one who gives his master, what his master terms good and faithful ser-

his master terms good and faithful service for the rendering of which, his reward is generally—a pauper's grave.

The decent worker is he the capitalistic press pats upon the back everytime he scabs upon his fellow workmates, and who, scales upon his fellow workmates, and who, when force of numbers compel him to go on strike, sycophanticly sneaks to his boss and tells him, "he wouldn't have gone on strike only the mer compelled him to;" praying to Christ that his master will have mercy upon him and look upon him as a

very much martyred man.

Poor fool with stunted vision." His sole ambition in life is to become foreman sole ambition in life is to become foreman of three or four men with a shilling a day more than his "inferiors." What a pest at dinner time he is, these few minutes he devotes to singing the praises of the boss and denouncing industrial unionism, although he has never spent three consecutive minutes in studying the question.

The Decent Worker, as I have aforementioned, is permeated with the capitalistic spirit. His desire is to get on, and he thinks the surest way of achieving this, is by courting the favour of his exploiter. The course of action his verniecous in

The course of action his vermiceous in-stincts urge him to employ to ensure this is to pimp on and denounce his brother

is to pimp on and denounce his brother shaves at every opportunity.

Speak to him during the hours we are piling surplus values for the master and you will see him wun miserable hyporisy, stoop down and pretend to be busily engaged in some work, so that if by some chance, the boss happens to arrive upon the seene, he will, by his attitude convey to him the impression that it is the other chan, not he, who is doing the talking and chap, not he, who is doing the talking, and that he is being delayed in his work.

How he purs and smiles when his boss addresses him, if one could, at that particular time get a glance at his, ecceyx. I am almost certain that you would find it performing an oscillating motion.

motion.

The decent worker is the on; who poss The decent worker is the on; who possesses feet that crawls, though matured in age, is still juvenile in mind, trembles with fear at the angry voice of his master, has no opinions of his own, whose only ambition in life is to serve in humble servility the interests of his master on the lopsided hazard of getting on, and whose range of vision is so dwarfed that it leads him to believe, that the getting of a shilling a day more than his fellow workers is the highest point of social eminence one can aspire to. I know him well, so do you; let us know him less. let us know him less.

JJH

## THERE CAN BE NO PEACE.

The I.W.W. preamble says:—
There can be no peace while hunger and want are found among the millions of working people, and the few who make up the employing class have all the good

up the employing class have all the good things of life.

True, there can be no peace while thousands of our girls are sweated in factories at 12/6 per week and keep one's self. While our waitresses are branded not on the square "because it is a known fact that they do not get a living wage. Our future men and women are left to run the streets while their mothers work to keep a shelter overhead. Our girls numberless are forced to sell

keep a shelter overhead.

Our girls, numberless, are forced to sell their bodies in the street to make up the deficiency in wages, and all this under the Labour Government, that we, workmen's wives and daughters, fought nail and tooft to put into power.

Australia has done more than her share with men and money. If we never sent another man, if we never gave another penny, we have done more than England ever asked or expected of us.

We have Huns to face, traitors of your own race, worse than Germans.

We have Huns to face, traitors of your own race, worse than Germans. We Australians have gladly shared our land and opportunities with our less fortunate brothers and sisters from England, Scotland, and Ireland, but this last isythe limit. There is an end to human endurance, and we have still a little dignity left. Can there be peace? Let Mr. Hughes beware! He in his postion, moving among the class he does, cannot hear and does not know the misery and discontent of the people who raised him from an umbrella maker to Prime Min-

# Melbourne Notes.

We still have to report rapid progress of this Local. Little Billie and his pals are certainly making the wage slaves do some tall thinking. Most of them have

are certainly making the wage slaves do some tall thinking. Most of them have not used their brains to such efficiency for years, as they are just now. In spite of the jailing of Peter Larkin we had a bumper meeting at the Guild Hall, on Wednesday, 27th September.

Last Sunday's Yarra Bank meeting was one of the finest we have ever held, financially and educationally. There were between 80 to 100 thousand people present. We certainly held a good proportion of the crowd. We had two platforms going and our usual speakers were well able to fill the bill.

fill the bill.

On Sunday evening in our hall we held a most successful meeting. The hall was packed to overflowing, and to satisfy the crowd that were not able to get in we had

packed to overflowing, and to satisfy the crowd that were not able to get in we had to hold a meeting in the street.

Fellow\_workers J. R. Wilsou, Laidler, Jeffrey, filled the bill in the hall, and Fellow-workers Grover, Taylor, and Clemens entertained the crowd outside. When the Soul Snatchers came along and sang the crowd from us, we sang them back again with I.W.W. songs.

The Wage Plugs here have got a sudden craving appetite here for 'Direct Actions,' our bundle-order of several doz. sold out as soon as they lobbed. Literature sales are getting a big boost. Our literature secretary is getting lopsided carrying home the dough every night. We held a special protest meeting at the Guild Hall, Wednesday, August 4th, in aid of the Sydney boys. Another bumper meeting, Fellow-workers J. R. and A. Wilson, Wall and Jeffrey's put the case to a very enthusiastic audience. J. R. Wilson received an ovation. A resolution was carried demanding the release of the I.W.W. men now in jail, on the alternative of a general paralysis of industry.

The meeting on the Yarra Bank during (strike' day) was very successful from our point of view in the propaganda work done.

(strike day) was very successful from our point of view in the propaganda work

done.

The Gods seem to be against the workers, as usual, by turning on the sky juce about 10 a.m., and it was still raining when we went to bed. In spite of the rain, there was a continual stream of people moving to the Bank for about four lours, keeping about twenty thousand continually around the speakers.

Mr. Block is beginning to examine the old head of his, finding that political aetion has left him lost in the wood. He is beginning to sit up and take notice of the I.W.W., wanting us to show him the way out.

out

out.

The track of the One Big Union is his only hope. Their industrial might is the only thing that will solve this present problem, and all the working class problems arising out of the capitalistic state, and they certainly are beginning to realise this in Melbourne.

James Pope, 197 Russell-street, Mel-

bourne.

## TRANSPORTATION ISSUE.

Following upon the success attendam upon the publication of the special "Miners' Edition," it has been decided by the Press Committee, to publish at an early date a special "Transportation Industry" Edition. Now, wharf laborers, scamen, railwaymen, tramwaymen, and carters, lets see what you are made of.

A considerable number of complaints A considerable number of complaints are arriving at this office re non-delivery of "Direct Action" to subscribers. In 99 per cent. of these cases the fault lays with the Post Office authorities. As it is impossible for us to attend to each individual case, subscribers are advised for the future to address all complaints direct to the Deputy Postmaster-General,

## SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

For ACTION." "DIRECT

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

Fill it in NOW! Address

ister. Too late, he will awake from his dream of a title to find the name of Hughes emblazoned on Australia's shores Hughes emplazoned on India, with the blood of her people.

MAY HOUGHTON.

403 Sussex Street, City.

# The I.W.W 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 Hamliton 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."

. "ALLARM."
(The Alarm.).
Swedish-Norwegian-Danish Monthly.
4s. per year. 164 W. Washington St.,
Chicago, Ill., US.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.)
Lithunanian. Weekly, 6s. 6d. per year.
869 Hollins St., Blatimore, U.S.A.

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Flemish. Monthly, 4s. per year. Fran-co-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.

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

## SYDNEY LOCAL. Meetings, &c.

Street Propaganda at Bathurst and Liverpool Streets every Friday and Sat-urday 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.

## IMPORTANT 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 historial standpoint as well

postage.

From an historial 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.

within the volume.

It also includes "Cresset's" satires, Nicholi'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.

## NOTICE.

Any local or fellow workers having sent in orders for literature are requested by the Literature Secretary, Sydney Local to communicate again with him, as all correspondence is at present in the hands of the police.

# 'Mirror ' Muck.

## I.W.W. ASSASSINS SAY VOTE NO.

Sydney "Mirror" pursues tenor of its jingo way, unmindful of the law of libel and totally oblivious to any nse of justice or journalistic decency, is generally understood that a person n is generally understood that a person is innocent of a crime until convicted, even is innocent of a crime until convicted, even the most partisan sheer will grant that fact to a political opponent. Not so, thinks the highly respectable "Mirror," which goes out of its way to slander members of the LW.W. now before the court. Fyrther, it prints a cartoon supposed to represent an LW.W. man in the act of martier and arson. In the first place the "Mirror's" attitude is grossly infair to the men before the court, especially at a time when it is well known that certain people are endeavouring to crush the LW.W. are endeavouring to crush the LWW. Secondly, it is criminally unjust to repre-sent an organisation as a gang of foreign sent an organisation as a gang of foreign spies and criminals because some members, happen to be charged. We might just as well affirm that everyone connected with the "Mirror" was a murderer because the "Mirror" advocates militarism. Ever since the war the "Mirror" has thrown muck at the I.W.W. Derhaps this

beer since war the various thrown muck at the L.W.W. Berhaps this abuse has had a damaging effect on recenting, wobbliers having found out long ago that their promotion in the estoem of the "Mirror" is far more rapid than in the army. A year ago we were only shirkers, peace mongers and foreign spics. Six months later the "Mirror" promoted us to the ranks of undesirables and criminals. As the influence of the L.W.W. grew, the "Mirror" lamehed out with more abusive epithets. Last week our efforts in the anti-conscription campaign carned us the title of wreckers. To-day we are branded "assassius." Perchance next week the either of the "Mirror" may promote us to the rank of devil.

Though the "Mirror's malice may be uncalled for and its cartoons criminally

Inough the Aftror's mance may be uncalled for and its cartoons eriminally insidious, we must admire the yellow posters this jingo journal produces. Months ago it produced a poster headed "An open letter to the swinish Huns," which was really a cowardly attack on local Germans, really a cowardly attack on local Germans, who, of course, were not in a position to defend themselves. This attidue is typical of the humnish "Mirror" tactics of attacking small sections of the combunity, such as the shirker, the peace advocate, etc. Another poster read, "A campaign of lies," which is a very appropriate poster for the "Mirror," which has never ter for the "Mirror," which has never hesitated to conduct a campaign of lies against all and sindry-who are antagonistic to the "Mirror's" ideas. Of course, it may be necessary for a paper containing so much mental muck to resort to scare posters. Last week the "Mirror" surpassed itself with a poster which said:—

LW.W. ASSASSINS WANT YOU TO VOTE NO.

This insulting placard is rather illogical.

VOTE NO.

This insulting placard is rather illogical.

The I.W.W. has consistently said "No" and will continue to say "No" to all the murider schemes of militarists. It is rather humorous to hear an organisation which is anti-militarist called assassins by a paper that revels in the organisation of murder. I would be interesting to see paper that revers in the organisation of murder. I would be interesting to see what would happen if "Direct Action" came out with placards headed MIRROR MURDER MONGERS SAY VOTE YES.

VOTE YES.
Indeed, such a poster would be far nearer the truth than the "Mirror's placard, for this sheet, since the day it was born in a subterranean cellar in Ash-street, has" a subterranean cellar in Ash-street, has' revelled in marder and atrocities. It is in fact a literary abortion begotten of war mania' and sweater's greed. It started mainly for the purpose of advocating the capture of enemy trade. This is the same sheet that tried to stampede the country into conscription last year. It is now busy denouncing the anti-conscriptionists as liars, and is insinuating that they are the associates of the alleged LW.W. criminals. All this is evidently written with the idea All this is evidently written with the idea of bluffing the ignorant to vote "Yes" at the referenda. As the "Mirror" contains so many mistatements on the conscription issue, we would draw the editor's atten-tion, to an article in this issue of "Direct Action," which explains the "Direct Action," which explains the real reasons for conscription. We challenge him to refute that article if he can. We further challenge the "Mirror" to prove that the L.W.W. is supported by German gold. We further challenge this malicious. "Mirror" to substantiate its allegation that the L.W.W. are the tiate its allegation that the LW.W. are the outlaws of every country intent on committing dastardly erimes of all kinds. Before the "Mirror" maliciously abuses people it would do well to clean up the muck on its own doorstep. Its advertisements are enough to condemn the paper. Again its adoption of the tactics of yellow journalism are open to severe criticism. It is somewhat sad to see a professedly respectable journal sink so low as to deliberately

try to inflame the mind of ignorance against men whose crime consists in the fact that they stood out against the bloody boodlers, and snobbish sweaters to which

J. A. Kinman, 403 Sussex St., Sydney.

# Broken Hill News.

Broken Hill wobblies were glad to receive last issue of "Direct Action," and to note asse issue of "Direct Action;" and to note its contents. It looks very much as though the powers that be have not yet learned that it takes something more than the imprisonment of a few of our most acti members to break the spirit of the I.W. In the atmosphere of such an organisa-tion as the I.W.W. editors, speakers, and writers are always developing and are ready to appear when the necessity for their appearance arises.

Things in Broken Hill are going along as well as can be expected in these strenuous times, and the anti-conscription move-

ous times, and the anti-conscription movement is more solid than ever. The proclamation compelling single men to entist has, of course, been issued, but the response cannot be said to be gratifying from a military point of view.

Yesterday (Wednesday, October 5) a meeting to protest against conscription was held in the Central Reserve. The tone of the meeting was, as usual, militant. To-day is eight-hours day in Broken Hill. and the line of lode is, of course, idle for 24 hours. Walking down the street one is struck by the different badges worn by members of the various craft organisa-

by members of the various craft organisations, and is forced to realise that many members of our class have yet to learn that the way to working class emancipathat the way to working class emancipa-tion is-not by keeping-up the old ideas of craft and skill in labor organisations, but only by realising that the working class are but units in the complex ma-chine process which is called industry, and by organisation to weld together those units in order to gain working class control of industry.

control of industry.

The anti-conscription party formed here is still doing good work. One specially gratifying feature of the aforegaid organisation is its ladies section, which, for exthesians is organisation is its ladies' section, w for enthusiasm, is second to none. E for enthusiasm, is second to none. Every class-conscious working man must metaphorically take off his hat to the noble women of Broken Hill, as I do, and the ramest hope is that when the present anti-conscription crusade is over these same women will study the principles of the L.W.W. and join hands with the men for the overthrow of the system which denies to women no less than men that liberty of self expression, which is life. liberty of self expression, which is life.

F. F. Ward, 316 Argent Street, Broken Hill

Briefly, the reason for unemployment is that there are not enough jobs to go around. What about a shorter work-day Speeding-up schemes are put forward in the interests of the boss. You and he have nothing in common

## THE DELEGATES.

Fellow-workers Foley, Goldsmith, and Farrell reported excellent progress in their tour up the South Coast on behalf of the Defence Committee. At a meeting held at Stanwell Park of the navvies, our fellow workers received a most sympathetic hearing. Although on account of the short time worked for the past fortnight, a collection between £4 and £5 was taken up. Cheers were given for the men in Cheers were given for the men gaol. gaol. A committee of the reps. of thir-teen gangs has been formed for the pur-pose of taking up collections for the legal pose of taking up concertions for the legal defence of the gaoled men. Fellow-worker Brian Scully, of Lithgow strike fame, is the treasurer, and he will do his best to make the collection a success.

On the following evening the same fellow workers spoke at the camp at Offord, which was fairly successful. The collec-tion amounted to £2 10s. Lists are also to be taken round on pay day, from which a good response is expected.

Don't forget this when considering one recruiting depression. Carmichagl's thousand (220) couldn't drill with the garden variety of soldier in the ordinary parks. No; Government House grounds had to be commandered for the purpose, and electric lights had to be specially laid on. The Auditor-General says it cost nearly £300 for this M.L.A. limelight. Of course, the Holman crowd are responsible. Who the Holman crowd are responsible. Who are the real I.W.W.'s!—"The Newsletter."

# Politics and Prejudice

# HUGHES, THE "I.W.W."; AND A POLITICAL OPPONENT.

Apparently, the Prime Minister, Mr. W. Apparently, the Prime Minister, Mr. W. M. Hughes, is not content with seeking to impose upon Australia a form of conscription which is worse than that of Prussia; but he goes further, and is even guilty of the indeceny and the gross unfairness of seeking, for the purpose of injuring a political opponent, to use evidence given during an uncampleted preliminary. given during an uncompleted preliminary inquiry into a charge of crime. This is not only abominably unfair to the politi-cian against whom Mr. Hughes seeks to use this information; but it is also likely to prejudice the accused. One of the fund-amental principles of British justice is that a man is innocent until he has been that a man is innocent until he has been proven before a jury to be guilty, and con-victed by that jury. In some foreign con-script countries, however, this is not a principle of law: and an accused person is therefore presumed to be guilty until he has demonstrated his innocence. Appar-ently, Mr. W. M. Hughes prefers the for-eign practice to the British principle. The matter to which we refer relates to the scandalous comments that he is mak-

ing throughout Australia upon the evidence that is being given in Sydrey at the preliminary hearing, by Mr. Barnett, S.M., of the evidence relating to the charges that are being made against a number of members of the organisation known as the LW.W. Not only does he craftily and falsely insimuate that the Labor organisations are controlled by the LW.W.; but he—the Prime Minsiter and Attorney-General of the Commonwealth—actually peregrinates throughout Australia making injurious remarks about the men now before Mr. Barnett, S.M., which may have the effect of prejudicing their case if the Magistrate should decide to send them before a jury. These remarks are published, of the evidence relating to the charges foje a jury. These remarks are published, mid prominently displayed, in the princi-pal newspapers of Sydney, the city in which they would have to be tried.

Speaking at Ballarat last Monday night, the Prime Minister made a virulent attack upon some unnamed members of the L.W.W. organisation. He then went on to say, as is reported in last Thursday's

Sun':

The LW.W. and some other organisations do not stop at such tactics, but go much further. They not only preach but practice sabotage; that is to say the wilful destruction of factories, machinery and plant. Nor do they stop even here; but, for reasons that will be obvious to every citizen if the Commonwealth in the course of the next few days, I will not now catalogue their crimes, except to remind the people of the Commonwealth that they are to a man anti-conscriptionists. These men have perverted industrial and political man anti-conscriptionists. These men have perverted industrial and political unionism to their own base purposes. I hope the workers will arise while there is yet time and put these men out. The are all anarchists and enemies of soc

are all anarchists and enemies of society. Pinvite you to read the press diligently during the next day or two. It is a most monstrous thing that the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth should so lightly regard his duties and responsibilities in his high office as to speak in this way of men who are now in a court of justice secured of a covicus. a court of justice accused of a serious crime: but who have not yet entered upon their defence. If ever there was a case justifying committal for contempt of justifying committal for contempt of court, the case of the Prime Minister and Attorney-General of the Commonwealth Attorney-General of the Commonwealth is such a case. He has not stopped, however, at what was thus reported in the Sydney "Sun," but, according to the "Sydney Moraing Herald" of yesterday, said as much, or more, at Hobart.—Extract from Sydney "Truth."

We view with some gravity the tidings of the I.W.W. arrests in Sydney for treason. News has also come to hand last week from Broken Hill that W. D. Barnett the secretary of the A.M.A., and well known in Melbourne, had been arrested, and was to be tried on a charge of seditious matter appearing in the columns of the "Barrier Daily Truth." We trust it will go well with all who have been arrested. As to the L.W.W. charges, fuller particulars will be awaited with anxiety. Back of these charges may be the desire to smash the L.W.W. because of its fight for the working class. Let us be on our guard.—Melbourne "Socialist."

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Owing to limited space, we are holding over some articles. Writers should send in manuscript by Friday if they wish their matter to appear the following week.

# A Financial Farce.

If the working class had any doubt about the perfidy of those whom they picked from the pavement and put into Parliament, the issuing of the proclamation summoning their young men to arms would surely dispel it.

These prospective victims of Moloch are to be held under military control—populations.

to be held under military control—penned as it were in compounds—while all the black arts of unserupulousness are brought to bear upon the electors to induce or ter-rify them into voting the victims to their

And in order to reassure the capitalist And in order to reassure the capitains classes, who were beginning to fear that the conscription of life would carry with

the conscription of life would carry with it the conscription of wealth, down comes the Trensurer—the "Labor" Treasurer!—with taxation proposals which leading exploiters of the people are able to describe as "eminently reasonable."

A miscrable ½ per cent, per annum for three years is to be levied on Proputly for the repatriation fund; war profits are to be taxed in a manner so miscrably inefficient and insincere that the Treasurer only expects to net £2,000,000 a year from only expects to net £2,000,000 a year from this source; and there is to me a small increase in the income tax as it affects the rich—the whole of the amounts thus extracted from Wealth being only sufficient to FINANCE THE WAR FOR FIVE OR SIX DAYS.

And concurrently with these hypocriti-I pretences to make the Bloated Purse disgorge, there are taxes on the cheap amusement of the workers—even the tickets of the children going into the picture shows are to pay a fine—and taxes on the working men and women without dependents, earning from £100 to £200 a year, who will have to hand over £1 each to who will I Mr. Higgs.

r. Higgs.
The whole conspiracy is now laid bare—
IFE is to be DRAINED by conscription,
WEALTH to be FATTENED by and

Australia is to be depleted of its white

Australia is to be depleted of its white manhood, and opportunities created for the lovers of colored labor.

Unionism is to be ground beneath the Iron Heel. The door is to be thrown wide open for the sweating of the women and children robbed of their breadwinners; they will be called upon to do the heavy work of men at a fraction of the wages that the men received for it.

And the workers are to be britally.

that the men received for it.

And the workers are to 1, brutally FORCED to GIVE their lives to the war, while the wealthy classes are in ably IM-PLORED to LEND their money.

PLORED to LEND their money.

And when the orgy of blood and hate is over, the conscripts and volunteers who survive may come back and join in the frantic struggle for jobs, and toil to keep Shylock the Shirker in luxury.

To such a pass have we been brought by a "Labor" Government.

But the Unions—praise be!—are alert and determined. And though the outlook is covered with darkness and fretted with fire, so long as the workers stick loyally one to another the gates of Hell shall not

one to another the gates of Hell shall not prevail against them.

-Henry E. Boote, St. Andrew's Place, Sydney, in the "Australian Worker"

At a Glebe women's conscription meeting. A lady in the audience to the chair-man: "Mr. Chairman, are you a mem-

haan:
Mr. Chairman (a big, binjified person, indignantly): "Certainly not, madama,"
The Lady: "I am very pleased to hear it, as the I.W.W. are very decent fellows."

## WIIY YOU SHOULD READ "DIRECT ACTION."

ACTION."

1. Because it prints the latest indistrial news (both foreign and local). Critical articles dealing with all phase of Industrialism are a speciality.

2. D.A. prints cartoons and poems that no other paper in Australia publishes.

3. D.A. panders to no political party. Being non-political, it exposes political party.

D.A. has no space for sentimental stories or racy gossip. It is out to de-liver the goods, that is, the scientific knowledge.

5. The fact that D.A. has been more abused and persecuted than any other paper in Australia is sufficient testimony to the esteem in which it is held by plutocrats. This is because plutocracy knows that D A. knows and will let the workers know those things plutocracy does not wish them to know.

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