

DIRECT ACTION

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The Struggle.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. This is the key-note of the latest militancy, which is stirring the souls of the workers in every corner of the earth. There can be no peace as long as hunger and want are found among millions of people. It comes that the workers are in hunger, because they only get one-fifth of all they produce in the industrial field, and the other four-fifths, which is called surplus value, goes to the few who make up the employing class, who have all the good things of life and have all the powers of the earth to protect the surplus value, which the workers have created. And that is why it is so great and gigantic a struggle between these two classes. And it must go on until the workers of the world organise into one union instead of having thousands of little trade or craft unions to fight one against the others over what? Demarcation! There is no other fight. And when they go for wages they take their hats off and say, "Mr. Judge Heydon, please give us a rise in wages, because the cost of living has risen so high that we are not able to buy enough food for our families. Is that the organisation that can abolish the wage system? And we also find that the centreing 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. Moreover, the trade unions mislead the workers into the belief that the working class and the employing class have interest in common. For instance, is there anything in common between the robbed and the robber? If it is not so, where does the surplus value come from to pay the salaries of members of Parliament, police, priests, parsons, and all industrial parasites; also the expenses of the war going on in Europe at the present day. These conditions can be changed, and the interest of the working class upheld, only by an organisation formed in this way, that all its members in any one industry or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lock-out is on in any department. The departments, theoretically, are as follows:— Department of Agriculture (Land), Department of Fisheries (Water Production), Department of Mining, Department of Transportation and Communication, Department of Manufacturing and General Production, Department of Constitution, Department of Public Service.

So the army of production must be organised, not only for the every day struggle with the Capitalism, but also to carry on an organisation when the Capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organising industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.—E.N.

Moulders' Strike: The Moulders' Journal, of October 2nd, devotes a page to an attack on the I.W.W. Evidently a recent article in "Direct Action" did not please the officials. It may interest the Moulders' Journal to know that that article was written for the benefit of some of the members of the Moulders' Union who complained their officials were not giving them a fair deal. The attack on the I.W.W. does not answer "Direct Action," and has no application to the local movement.

The "Farmer and Settler" is anxious to rescue the Labour movement from the control of the I.W.W. It is a few years since it wanted to rescue the same movement from the A.W.U., and the Labour Party. The same rag takes offence at the I.W.W. ideal of port-huge steak and mushrooms, which is not exactly in line with its conceptions of working-class fare, consisting of damper, and cocky's joy.

IS THIS INDUSTRIAL CONSCRIPTION?

In view of the conscription crisis, the following extracts from Hansard which were printed and published by the National Council for Civic Liberties, makes interesting reading:—

Mr. LLEWELYN WILLIAMS asked the Minister of Munitions how many soldiers are employed at the Llanely Steel Works; whether for the first three days these soldiers were paraded at the drill hall and marched to and from the works; whether this practice is still kept up; whether the men are paraded on Sundays; what wages are paid; and whether he can give an assurance that the amounts received by the men are not less than would be paid to them if they were similarly employed as civilians?

D. ADDISON: A military working party of 102 soldiers, under an officer, was supplied to the Llanely Steel Company. These men were all strange to the neighbourhood, and for the first few days were paraded and marched from the drill hall, which was a convenient centre, to the work. The roll call is now taken at the work. On Sunday, 30th July, a special parade was held at 8 p.m. to inspect the men and their equipment. These men, like all soldiers, temporarily lent by the War Office, as working parties, remain in the military service of the Crown, and are under military discipline. They receive no wages, but continue in receipt of their military emoluments. The contractors to whom they are supplied is prohibited from making any payment to them, but pays to the military authorities a sum equal to the wage of the men at the rates current in the district for civilian labour of the kind in question.

Mr. HODGE: Is it not foolish for the Army to take away capable men and send soldiers who are incapable in their place?

Mr. W. THORNE: May I ask whether it is a fact that the War Office or the Munitions Ministry charge the full rate current in the district for these men, and pay the men only a certain amount of money, and is, in fact, making a profit out of these men's labour?

Dr. ADDISON: There is no question of making a profit out of the men's labour, but the Regulation of the War Office require that the wages that would be paid to the same number of civilians are paid over to the military authorities. The amount paid by the employer is still the same.

Mr. THORNE: Is it not a fact that the War Office or someone in authority gets the difference between what these men get and what the employers pay to other men?

Dr. ADDISON: I do not know what the War Office does with the money when they get it. Perhaps the hon. Member will put a question to the War Office.

Mr. THORNE: It is exploiting the soldiers' labour absolutely.

Mr. ANDERSON: Was there an understanding on this question that when soldiers were brought back as workmen in these establishments they would be paid not less than the standard rate of wages paid to other people?

Dr. ADDISON: I should like notice of that.

Mr. HODGE: Is the right hon. Gentleman not aware that I, and a great many others, went down and said so on those instructions many months ago?

Dr. ADDISON: So far as the military authorities are concerned, they are under the Regulations of the War Office.

Mr. CROOKS asked the Minister for Munitions whether he is aware that soldiers are being employed in Woolwich Arsenal on work formerly done by civilians, such as unloading large shells and loading trucks, without any extra pay; and whether he will make enquiries with a view to the customary extra pay being granted?

Dr. ADDISON: Soldier working parties are temporarily employed at Woolwich Arsenal in

connection with the inspection bond and the stores department under an arrangement with the War Office for the supply of such working parties in cases of extreme urgency when civilian labour is not available. The conditions as to the pay of soldier working parties are laid down in Army Council Instruction 707 of 1916, and provide that in all cases where troops are lent for such work they should continue in receipt of their military emoluments, working pay, when admissible, being granted at appropriate rates according to the work performed.

Mr. CROOKS: What is the proper rate?

Mr. OUTHWAITE: Why is it that soldiers are employed at Woolwich Arsenal when only recently some 5,000 men have been discharged? Why are you discharging men and taking on soldiers?

Dr. ADDISON: We wanted 20,000 in steel works and blast furnaces, and a large number of unskilled men. Many of the men referred to in Woolwich Arsenal have been drafted off in the process of the dilution of labour to other work, and they were skilled workmen.

Mr. J. SAMUEL: Seeing that these men are working at very laborious work, does he expect that they are going to work for military wages?

Dr. ADDISON: These men work under the Regulations of the War Office, and they are only supplied because in those cases the state of affairs was so bad that application had to be made to the War Office to lend working parties.

THE STALWARTS IN GAOL.

Tune, "The Red Flag."

The master class, have gaoled our Men
For Treason, whether right or wrong,
A sacrifice they've made again,
It's up to you to note this song.

Chorus.

Then raise the cry throughout the land,
And give our boys a helping hand,
They've stood by us in every fight,
We'll stand by them with all our might.

Fellow slaves, line up to-day,

The war is on in fierce array.

The weapon you must use to fight,

Is "One Big Union," "might is right."

The Industrial-Workers have one aim,

We ask you all to play the game,

To overthrow this system vile

Will take some time, but it's worth the while.

—C.D.

Press Matters

The press is just beginning to become too slow for I.W.W. When we get a circulation of 10,000 we want a newer and more up-to-date press, a press than can spit "Direct Action" as fast as Fairfax's machines can turn out the "S'merald."

Such a press can be obtained for about £250. We have got to get this money, if the members want the continuation of our fighting little paper. We have seen her grow from 2,500 per month up to 3,000 a week in just over two years, and we can guarantee, with the aid of a little more N.S.W. Government publicity we will guarantee a 50,000 circulation in 12 months. And what is £250, alongside of the work that can be accomplished?

The only way we can show due appreciation to the ruling class of Australia, is by keeping the paper going, and increasing our circulation.

In the meantime, if you don't get "Direct Action," don't worry—she won't be dead. We may have difficulty in getting a printer to print it, but we'll get there.

Now, we have some of our best propagandists in gaol, but these things are merely incidents in the class war.

We want 250 persons with a pound each, to buy a modern up-to-date press. And if we can get a twelve-months' run with her, we will guarantee that all the money will be returned. And if we don't get the 12 months' run, we will pay dividends at the millenium.

Yes, new times create a need for new methods and machinery. Let's have that quid on loan, fellow-workers.

On Sunday evening J. Wilson lectured in the Hall on Industrial Unionism, to a crowded audience. The lecturer received an ovation, and the collection bag £4/3/0.

Dean Talbot, the Hon. D. R. Hall, Mr. Lamond and other stay-at-home enthusiastic members of the conscription outfit, addressed a large and interested audience of uniformed and plain clothes police on the Sydney Domain last Sunday. Needless to say, the meeting was extremely orderly, comprised as it was, of exempted individuals, or fossils, whose heads are dead, although their legs live on.

DOMAIN PROSECUTIONS.

Fellow Workers Fred. Millwood and Pat. Harford were summoned at the Central Police Court on Monday last for taking up a collection in the Sydney Domain without a permit from the Minister of Agriculture. They were convicted and fined £1 and costs, or seven days in the Penitentiary. They will be free about Saturday afternoon next.

Two other cases of F.W.'s Arthur Budd and Rowley Farrall were remanded for a week, on their application.

There is tonic in the things that men do not love to hear; and there is damnation in the things that wicked men love to hear. Free speech is to a great people what winds are to the ocean and marjarial regions, which waft away the elements of disease, and bring new elements of health; and where free speech is stopped miasma is bred, and death comes fast. —Henry Ward Beecher.

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Washington Street, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

The Referenda.

On Saturday next a plebiscite will be taken throughout the Commonwealth on the question:—

Are you in favor of the Government having in this grave emergency, the same compulsory powers over citizens in regard to requiring their military service, for the term of the war, outside the Commonwealth as it now has in regard to military service within the Commonwealth?

The taking of a poll on the question of conscription under such peculiar circumstances is unique in history. In the past such matters were decided by the authorities and the people were never asked about the matter. On Saturday Australians will be asked to record a census of opinion on this vital issue that has split the people into two hostile camps which have struggled on the hustings and even come to blows during the stormy conscription campaign.

Whatever ideas we may harbor as to the legality, morality, or advisability of such a referendum the fact remains whether we like it or not the ballot will be taken, and if fairly polled will give an indication as to what the electors really think.

The first thing that strikes one about this question is that the tremendous issues at stake are not stated. Indeed the phraseology of the question is somewhat ambiguous. We are not informed as to what "this grave emergency" is. Many public speakers say there is a crying need for more men to win the war, others affirm that if every fit man in Australia was rushed to the front to-morrow—supposing such a thing were possible—it would not add one per cent. to the forces of the Allies. We have had prominent politicians, parsons, pressmen, and public men representing all shades of opinion speaking from a capitalist standpoint, trying to influence the electors, but with the exception of a few weekly papers and some advance thinkers, very little effort has been made to deal with the matter from the people's standpoint.

As a working class paper, we have yet to meet the individual who can demonstrate clearly that this alleged grave emergency exists. Putting aside all the twaddle that has been talked anent military necessity, national needs and honouring our promises or rather the promises of politicians made to Empire builders without the consent of the people, those politicians were supposed to represent, we wish to know if there are any valid reasons why the lives and destinies of the workers should be handed over to a military or political dictatorship? We have heard re-echoed from pulpit, press and platform the national version concerning this issue, but we have not heard the scientific view-point.

A question involving grave sociological consequences is not to be decided by wrangling over political theories or juggling with recruiting figures. The issue is far deeper, and involves a multiplicity of questions ranging from the "freedom of the individual as opposed to the dictatorship of the State," to the passing of a political party into the shades of oblivion.

The question from a working class standpoint is at bottom conscription, conscription industrial and military. Not military service for the period of the war, as the question is worded, but conscription after the war. In older countries conscription has always been ushered in to the cry of a temporary expedient, and many promises have been made by spokesmen of the ruling class to the effect that no class distinctions will be made. History clearly shows that once introduced conscription becomes a permanent institution, involving many hardships for the poor, and exemptions for the rich, all promises to the contrary, notwithstanding.

For every individual voter, the solemn hour is now striking. It is not a mere mouthful of morals, a political party plot or a military measure that is at stake. Neither can this affair be decided by nationalistic necessities. Economically, it is at a basis a class question. Psychologically, it is a scientific query that logically resolves itself into the important question: Is conscription sociologically advisable in the interests of the people?

There are two important considerations involved in this question. Firstly, the onus of proof rests on those who affirm. Secondly, where interests clash the greatest good of the greater number has been found by experience, to be sociologically best for the community.

LABOR AFTER THE WAR.

The position of labor in Australia after the war will depend upon many factors which cannot be adequately dealt with in the space of a short article. Before touching upon the main facts there is an important question that demands consideration. How will the European war with its complex social and economic effects rest upon the industrial position in Australia?

There are many politicians who profess to expect some sort of national unity pervading not only the machinery of administration but also the mass of the people. Some patriots tell us there will be no more strikes, no more extravagant union demands, no more high wages and shirkers—instead an employers' paradise will be the millenium in which the workers will be expected to acquiesce and even help to the fullest extent to capture German trade and maintain British industrial supremacy. There are some sentimentalists who go further, and, with unctious hands and hypocritical howls, implore the workers not to desert their comrades in the trenches. These sycophants of capitalism speak in tremulous tones of how a great national calamity is cementing all classes into a national brotherhood and lifting the people to nobler ideals. It is questionable whether this rabid jingoism appeals to the majority of workers. The essential factors of the class struggle will remain after the war. Not only will the war not smother up those class antagonisms but present indications point to an industrial struggle after the war.

Labor is only beginning to realise the sordid nature of the class war. Nothing has happened during the war to warrant the assumption that capital and labor will shake hands and bury the hatchet after the war. The European slaughter has to some extent obscured the issue of the class war which will, shorn of its patriotic veneer, reappear in all its naked hideousness with the advent of peace. The disbandment of millions of men, the reorganisation of industry and adjustment of international trade will tend to create an economic crisis containing the elements of a conflict between capitalists and workers. Although far removed from the scene of hostilities the aftermath of the war will have a marked effect upon Australia.

The most important factor which will ultimately decide these vexed questions is the industrial organisations of capitalists and workers. The fact that the workers as a class have suffered during this war is because their organisations are not in line with economic evolution. They are still muddling along with obsolete guilds, while the capitalists are organising into powerful combines.

It is useless, then, to plead for industrial unity between classes whose interests are irrevocably antagonistic. The capitalistic leopard cannot change his spots and the workers as their education improves and their economic position grows worse will demand a fuller share of the good things of life that labor and labor alone created.

In the coming industrial conflict it is probable returned soldiers will play a prominent part. If the soldiers are not well provided for—it is difficult to see how all the promises made to them can be honored—a short experience of industrial warfare will revive in them the old class antagonisms. They will be forced to make a fight against the economic conditions, and who knows that with clarified vision and industrial unionism permeating the ranks their struggle may take the form of an attack on the trenches of capitalism.

AJAX.

The truth is, Christ and His real disciples are at mortal strife with every authority and institution of which the so-called "civilised" world of to-day boasts itself. They abominate its "sovereigns and statesmen"; its Lords and Commons, its gaolers and hangmen; its armies and navies; its rates and taxes; its prisons and work-houses; its usury-banks; its stock exchanges; its insurance offices and Liberator Societies—in a word, the whole monstrous paraphernalia by which the institution of private property is impudently upheld, to the destruction of the poor and the debasement of the rich—Morrison Davidson: The Gospel of the Poor.

SENTIMENTAL SLUSH.

(By Circe).

Said a woman speaker at a conscription meeting in Melbourne: "Every mother descended in the shadows of death to give birth to her child, and any man who refused to do the same for his mother was unworthy of the name." (Loud cheers). At first glance this sentence appears to mean that a man who refused to give birth to a child was unworthy of the name, but the woman may not have meant to make such a startling and impossible statement. This writer wishes to point to the immense amount of sentimental slush that is poured out at the present time by female and male speakers and writers. There is no resemblance between the pangs of child birth and men going way to slaughter strange men in other countries for the benefit of the master class.

And as to the pangs of child birth, the master class will expect millions of women to undergo the tortures of travail in bringing forth children. The well-fed wives of the Capitalist class who get on to a platform may talk glibly about the "glory" of maternity and the pride of the parents. The wives of the wealthy are showing a marked repugnance to child bearing; yet they are active in philanthropic work, not the least part of which consists in visiting their poor sisters and expatiating on the blessing of maternity.

Many poor women are forced by necessity to make use of maternity homes where they become acquainted with the grim, ugly wards of a public hospital, a charitable institution, managed by wealthy women, who wish to gain a name for themselves as philanthropists. The hard beds and bare floors of dreary wards in public hospitals are by no means pleasant havens for work worn women in the time of descending into the shadows of death to give birth to their children. But under Capitalism the working class women are supposed to feel exceedingly grateful for the privileges of a bed at a maternity hospital where sweated nurses bully them, and clerical parasites say prayers over Christian patients, and hector those who have the courage to deny any sort of religious superstition.

And as soon as it is possible the working woman and her newly born child have to get out of public hospital to make room for others of the same class. There is nothing poetical or sentimental about these useful slaves adding to the number of the world's oppressed class. For, from the beginning of their lives in public institutions, children of the working class are on an average not much above the level of sheep dogs, and horses, animals trained to obedience, through long ages for the benefit of their human oppressors and tyrants. The victims of the Capitalist system in peace; the slaves are given just enough to live on, and frequently less than is consistent in maintaining health and strength. In times of war if he is not conscripted, he is bullied, cajoled, or forced by unemployment to fight his own class for the benefit of men who own and control the wealth of the world. The Capitalist press employs the best writing talent to hoodwink the wage slave class, much as a sheep dog drives his own class, the sheep, into abattoirs; and looks with touching fidelity into the face of his master for a word of thanks for his shameless work, and betrayal of innocent animals.

Sentimental slush is ladled out to the slave class by the master class. The wage slaves in Australia are told that they have liberties conferred upon them by the State, and "that the Australian democracy had given its citizens more than any men had received in any other part of the world."

Revolutionaries do not recognise any liberties as special gifts to the working class here or elsewhere. If certain palliatives fought for and won in sixty years' desperate struggling are liberties, it is up to the slaves to keep them, and not allow renegade politicians and others to take those liberties away. Any way, where are the marvellous liberties, the loss of which the working class are threatened with? Why get sentimental over things that do not exist? Why work on the savage or sentimental psychology of the mass? Exploitation is not a matter of sentiment, not can its ghastly face be hidden behind a veil of feminine phrases or appeals to the material instincts of women, either of the capitalist or the working class.

Cheap labour is the life-blood of Capitalism, cheap child labour, coloured labour, the labour of the best manhood of every country oppressed by and groaning under the weight of organised international capitalism, which itself means luxury, light and life for human parasites and idlers; deep hollow caverns of misery, degradation, and slavery for the oppressed workers.

Sentimental slush is poured over the ignorant and foolish by those sleek, respectable patriots who howl for other men to enlist while they stay at home, exempt from the

dangers of bloody battle fields, machine guns and gases. Patriots who adulterate the workers' food, in the sacred name of profit, vote the manhood of a country out of it in the name of duty (Capitalist class duty); and rack rent women and children, over-work and under-pay them in shops and factories. Sentimental slush is akin to bird lime, a trap for the foolish and unwary, especially women, who trust politicians instead of becoming class conscious and joining the One Big Union.

Beware!

I hear the clang of a mighty chain,
I see the furnace glare,
They're forging fetters for you, my friends,
Ho! Working-class beware.

For the brand of the hot iron ready
Your flesh you are asked to bare,
Before your blood is seared to steam,
O! Working Class beware.

Once let the yoke around your neck,
For ever 'twill be there,
Your only chance is now, my friends,
O! Working Class beware.

It sits not light, but galls with weight,
Your groans will rend the air,
Before you're made a sacrifice,
O! Working Class beware.

Without your leave, without your vote,
They'd chain did they dare,
While still you have such liberty,
O! Working Class beware.

To know their end, you've but to read,
To learn how others fare,
Beneath Conscription's deadly yoke,
So Working Class beware.

Keep what you've won, and forfeit naught,
Enjoy your freedom rare,
They fear your growing might, O! friends,
So Working Class beware.

The way for Prussian tyranny,
Conscription will prepare;
O! as you treasure Freedom,
BEWARE! BEWARE! BEWARE!

W. H. LEVEY.

169 Wigram Road,
Forest Lodge.

A feature of the parade was the great variety of box signs the strikers carried. One said, "The Bosses Send their Children to the Country; the Strikers Send Theirs to the Dispensary." Another read, "The Workers' Sweat is the Gasoline the Boss Runs His Auto With." A third said, "Ten Weeks of Strike. By Starvation the Bosses Tried to Put Us Into Slavery, but the Union Says No." Another read, "The Bosses Wait to Starve Us Out, But We Are Still Alive." Another declared, "Nature Gave Everybody an Appetite, but the Bosses Have Taken Away the Key to the Bread Box."—The Daily Standard.

COLLECTION AT OTFORD.

For Fellow-Worker Morris, of Otford.—J. Morris, 5/; J. Blanco, 1/; J. Elemert, 1/; F. Bolster, 1/; J. Antony, 2/; Rep., 1/; C. Armstrong, 1/; T. Mitchell, 1/; Mr. Yates, 1/; J. Wells, 6d; Mr. Jones, 1/; J. Smith, 2/; A. Palm, 1/; O. Farrell, 1/; D. Dawson, 1/; J. Wall, 1/; C. W., 2/; Joe Bugya, 1/; Joe Maloney, 1/; A.S., 1/; A. T., 1/; F. Batchelor, 1/; C. W. Desry, 2/6; W. Cook, 1/; J. Wilson, 1/; Nuggett, 2/6; W. Adams, 1/; A. Payne, 1/; J.T.B., 1/; Jas. Jeffrey, 6d; T.E.; 6d; Zannuff Franch, 1/; Xiberas Paul, 1/; Mizal Mercelo, 1/; T. Barry, 1/; W. Thomson, 1/; Wm McWhirter, 1/; J.P., 3d.; A. Doyle, 1/; J. Foster, 1/; F. Ballard, 1/; Kia Ora, 1/; W. Hagart, 1/; T. Baker, 2/6.
Total, £2/16/2.

FROM FRIEZLAND, N.Z.

The following sums were collected in Friezland by our Russian fellow-worker, Charles Greenberg, for the Defence Fund. Many thanks to the donors:—
C. Greenberg, 5/; A. Waldemar, 5/; A. Konchiz, 5/; T. Kislicia, 5/; W. Sinsin, 5/; T. Romanoff, 5/; J. Elbimoff, 5/; N. Sernemita, 2/; T. Denirmisky, 5/; E. Boostoneff, 2/; E. Dubatoff, 2/; D. Erimoff, 2/; S. Tolstolbroff, 2/; T. Walsh, 5/; A. Rendlen, 5/; F. Dodge, 2/6; J. Kaesov, 10/; Y. Williams, 5/; P. Gleboff, 1/; F. Vasin, 2/; J. Maguire, 3/.
Grand Total, £4/5/6.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H. Levy—Thanks.
Circe—Thanks.
L. F. B.—Poem held over.
T. G.—Not judicious to publish while trial pending.

Conscription and the I.W.W.

Perhaps never before in the life of this continent has any danger or any national question aroused the masses from their torpor as the threat of conscription has done. Such enthusiastic energy springing from the people was worth living years to witness, for it is the sign of a great mental awakening—the awakening that must come before the principles of Industrial Organisation as advocated by the Industrial Workers of the World can be absorbed by the modern proletariat. For the reason that William Morris Hughes is in large part responsible for this awakening, his name must grace the pages of working-class history even though no other action of his can be given that honor. The mental uplift of the people will bring about the fall of Hughes in the political life of Labor, but it is just this rising mental outlook which will later lift the I.W.W. on to the throne and invest them with the wand of world control, for once the people are awakened they are on the track to realise the weight and logic of the I.W.W. philosophy and plans for working class organisation. The premise of conscription has done more awakening than a decade of Industrial Union propaganda could have done.

To accuse W. M. Hughes of treachery to the Labor Movement, as many of the anti-conscriptionists are doing is the merest stupidity, for not in one degree has he deviated from the Labor policy he outlined in his "Case for Labor." If he is guilty of treachery, that crime was exposed by himself when he wrote his book, yet none of the leading anti-conscription Laborites appear to have noticed anything wrong with his programme until now.

The contradiction apparently arises because the champions of Labor did not realise the necessary and inevitable outcome of their own political party's attitude; because they did not understand the economic foundations of the Capitalist system, nor of their own class position. They attempted the impossible task of maintaining the Capitalist order as a national "outfit" while imagining they could improve the conditions of labor within national boundaries; they failed to grasp the fact that Capitalism is an international operator and can only be strangled to a finish by an international working class.

W. M. Hughes is not responsible for their lack of knowledge of these facts unless he was their mentor and wilfully misled them, and this of course he may have done, seeing it to be unthinkable that a man of his economic learning could not foresee the outcome of the original Labor programme. The Labor Leagues and Labor Unions decidedly admit the moral right of the Capitalist system. Did they not ever sanction boy-conscription? And did not these same Labor people watch with pride the imposition of the "curse" upon their children? There is little doubt that the present opposition to conscription is heavily backed by the young huskies of the nation equipped with the new psychology—anti-capitalism, but taking it all in all and reviewing events of the near past, William Morris Hughes and the I.W.W. are the most astonished people in the Southern Hemisphere to-day. What a wonderful mental change has taken place and what a huge mental gap has been bridged by the people in five short years! Who could have believed that such an advance was possible! Yet, right where the people say goodbye to ignorance and advance to the foothold of reason is just where they must bid farewell to W. M. Hughes and all other vote-catching Labor fakery and reach out to embrace the organisation taught by the Industrial Workers of the World.

Though the I.W.W. have no particular quarrel with Hughes over his conscription policy, knowing it to be the inevitable result of the half labor, half capitalist platform he represented, we do and must disagree with him when he resorts to tactics which even the I.W.W. would scorn to practice in his efforts to gull the people and "win through" with his conscript scheme.

He and his associates are trying to connect the I.W.W. with the anti-conscriptionists, a relation which both these bodies mutually resent; the I.W.W. because they hold the "pure and simple" anti to be unscientific and illogical since they uphold the capitalist system; and the latter because they consider the I.W.W. to be not thoroughly respectable and law-abiding. If the conscription argument has become so weak that W. M. Hughes has to descend to such tactics to win, he should throw in the towel and hurry home to the laps of his Imperial Labor pals in old England. Fancy a man asking the people to vote with him simply because the I.W.W. are opposed to him!

The I.W.W. are opposed to him alright, and they do oppose conscription, but they do not at the same time support Capitalism as do many of the others who oppose Hughes, for this organisation is nothing if it is not logical.

The I.W.W. not only opposes conscription, but it attacks militarism in all its forms, and it carries on a war against the Capitalist system with the ferocity of a thousand Bengal tigers. Because militarism in any and every form is but a creation of the master class, because it is the strongest prop of the Capitalist system and the most powerful weapon that can be levelled against the ranks of organised labor the Industrial Workers of the World mean to fight to the last ditch the attempt to impose it on Australia.

Hear what the Secretary of the French Metal Workers' Federation has to say on the question:—

"The workmen cannot help themselves for the simple reason that about 80 per cent. are men subject to military discipline in the factories. That is the reason why no difficulties have arisen. Any mobilised workman that dares to make an objection would be tried by court-martial. The Government, by maintaining the militarisation of the workers in the factories, handed them over to the mercy of their employers who exercise an arbitrary authority, and many of whom are making large fortunes by sweated labor." (Labor Leader).

This is the manner in which INDUSTRIAL CONSCRIPTION operates in France and other European countries. But the menace has another barrel, and with it the white workers may be so depleted in numbers that cheap colored labor will have to be imported to carry on the industries of the nation, and the presence of these cheap workers in sufficient numbers will force the white man to reduce his living standard by accepting a wage approximating that which the cheaper man will accept. Under a conscription regime, the organisation of these men will not be permitted, and later with the return of peace, the white worker and civil conditions the labor market will be so crowded that a vast unemployed labor army must be expected and here again the standard of living will suffer.

The I.W.W. does not object to colored labor, simply because it is colored labor, nor does it oppose conscription merely because the introduction of cheap labor is the motive, but we attack it because it will deprive us of the right to educate and organise our class-brothers, be they black, white or brown, for the overthrow of the Capitalist system. Our outlook is an international one, recognising no country, but the world, and no races but masters and slaves. Our mission is to organise the world's slave class. We want ANTI-CAPITALISM, and being so are anti-everything that makes for the perpetuation of the system:

How now can we be confused with the pure and simple anti-conscriptionists who wish to preserve social order and win this war for a master class by relying on the voluntary system of getting soldiers because they wish to keep Australia white!

(A. MACINNES, 403 Sussex St. City).

Melbourne Notes.

The powers that would be, or would like to be, got a move on on Friday evening, at South Melbourne Market, and stopped all the meetings in that vicinity, the Salvation Army included. The reason given was "interfering with marketing."

The I.W.W. meeting adjourned next to the Town Hall, and held a very successful evening, and sold 14 doz. D.A.'s. There has been a devil of a row since amongst the would-be heads as to who was responsible. The police say they got their instructions from the Council, the Council blame the Mayor, and they are calling one another liars. Anyhow, the Mayor took the chair at a conscription meeting the next evening. He got such a reception that they had to douch the gimps before they got a start. The Mayor then, out of revenge, attended an anti-conscription meeting, which he tried to upset, but the crowd took to him and chased him home under an escort of John's. Next week there is not likely to be anything doing. If there is, there will be a free speech fight on. We also held our usual meeting at Collingwood on Friday evening, and had a good sale of D.A. literature. On Sunday at the Yarra Bank, the Rev. Lynch and other angel gushing tools held a conscription meeting. Their object "was" this: For the last four or five Sundays there has been enormous crowds at the Bank. The Johns have been much in evidence, 30 or 40 mounted troopers, and God knows how many of the foot variety, besides military police, but there has been nothing doing. The crowd has been anti-conscription. This did not suit the conscriptionists. If they were to put up some wowers of the Lynch type they would pull the crowd on to them, the Johns could get busy, and that would be the end of meetings, on the Yarra Bank. It turned out even so. The crowd got around Lynch and his pals, and were counting him out and getting hostile. The Inspector of Police was buzzing around like a blow-fly when down came the rain, and the situation was saved. Just keep your eye

on the Yarra Bank and note which side forces the fight, you wage slaves, and then ask yourselves where is all the morality that the officialdom of the Capitalistic State and its press are always boasting about? The Rev. Lynch has not been shot in yet for inciting to riot. Nor is a charge laid yet by the police. That they feloniously and wickedly did conspire, consult, confederate, assemble, and meet together to raise a riot. These charges are only made for wage-plugs.

We held a very successful lecture at our Hall on Sunday night, and things are booming as far as the class struggle is concerned.

J. POPE, 197 Russell St., Melbourne.

Broken Hill Notes.

Another victim has been added to the already long list of those whose words and deeds have run contrary to the wishes of the powers that be, in the person of John Stephen Flynn, who, on Friday, October 6th, was charged before S. M. Shaw, in the Broken Hill Police Court, with having behaved in a riotous manner in Argent St. on September 25, when the police dispersed a crowd who were partaking in a demonstration against the conviction of Brookfield, McLaughlin and Sinclair.

Accused was convicted and fined £5, in default one month's imprisonment, and ordered to enter into sureties to be of good behavior for 12 months, self in £50 and one surety in £50, in default further imprisonment for six months. Defendant lodged an appeal against the conviction, and was released.

On Wednesday, October 11th, W. D. Barnett, Secretary of the Barrier Branch of the A.M.A., and publisher of "Barrier Daily Truth," appeared on remand before S. M. Shaw, on a charge, which, translated from legal phraseology into plain English, means that on the 1st August last he endeavored to incite the workers of Broken Hill to murder the senior officials of the mines in Broken Hill. The alleged incitement to murder was contained in an article entitled, "The Cheapness of Blood," which appeared in "Barrier Daily Truth" on the above-mentioned date. The article in question referred to the death of a mullocker killed in the Proprietary Mine, and argued that if they thought they would suffer as a result of preventable accidents the officials of the mines might take precautions to prevent such occurrences. It has been said that the law is an ass, and proof positive is provided by this case, for on Mr. Barnett's own admission he knew nothing about the article until he saw it in the paper, but all the same the accused was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions to be held at Broken Hill or such other time and place as the Attorney-General might appoint. Perhaps some day in the near future the working class will realise that justice, like God, is always on the side of the strongest battalion, or to put it more plainly, on the side of those who have the most effective industrial organisation, and therefore the most economic power. When they realise this, and put it into effect by joining together under the banner of the I.W.W. into one big Union of the world's workers, human life will be held more valuable than profits and preventable accidents will cease to occur. The working class are slaves, and no master ever lived who can, could or would give justice to a slave, or to any body of slaves. What we have to do is to realise that the working class are interdependent, and that only by organising as a class can we hope to escape from the class slavery which is our portion to-day. Therefore, workers, study the literature of the I.W.W., and help to build up a working class organisation strong enough and wide enough to successfully oppose any menace to the working class, and to win for ourselves Justice, in the shape of the full product of our Labor.

F. F. WARD, 316 Argent St., Broken Hill.

"DIRECT ACTION."

English. Weekly, 4s. per year. Published by the I.W.W., 403 Sussex 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. 860 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 remittances to Administrator, El Rebelde, Box 1279, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

"BABOCHAYA 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.

Vol. III, No. 94.—Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper.—October 29, 1916.

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.
Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Economic Class.
Wednesday, 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 historical standpoint, as well as from an educational standpoint, the volume is essential. All the information re the Newcastle free speech fight, the posters and stickers case, the hundred and one strikes of the year, are contained within the volume.

It also includes "Cresset's" satire, Nicholl's cartoons, West's "Ballad of Maitland Gool," "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 volumes left.

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.

NOTICE.

All unsigned contributions to this paper are collated or written by the Editor, J. A. Kinnami, 403 Sussex Street, Sydney.

SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

For

"DIRECT ACTION."

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

Name

Address

FILL IT IN NOW!

Spasms.

International Notes

News and Notes. Another Activity.

William—the Frantic, at a corroboree at Bendigo, read a copy of a letter sent by Miss Pankhurst to Tom Barker, in which it read to the effect that the I.W.W. had compelled the Labor politicians to take up an attitude against conscription. Mr Hughes didn't take the trouble to explain how he came into possession of a copy of the letter. Truly, the saviour of the Empire is going from bad to worse. The crowd, at Bendigo, instead of cheering wildly, should have taken the little howler, and given him a well-deserved spanking.

Walter Goldsmith spoke a week ago at Helensburgh. Two days ago he got a summons charging him "with using profane language to wit, the words, 'By Jesus, it's hot!'"

There's no doubt about it!

Mr. R. D. Hall, our Minister for Justice, is busy advertising the I.W.W. at conscription kilnfires. In order to show the frightful nature of the One Big Union propagandists, he read out a list of names which smacked somewhat of Europe. Thirty per cent. of the names are of men who were born in Australia, while another 50 per cent. are Russians, Dutchmen and Scandinavians. If the blue-blooded Dave will give his sleuths the tip, he will soon find out. And if he hunts up the six "B. Goldberg's" he was harping on, he will find a wobbly of Jewish extraction with a Yorkshire accent. Run away and play, Dave!

A local conscriptionist parson at a South Coast meeting in favour of the "Yes" movement, after stopping an eight months' old egg, "You b—— lot of cold footed b——s!"

The workers up at Glenreagh are greatly interested in the I.W.W. Over 35 subscribers to "Direct Action" have been obtained by Fellow-Worker Robert McTernan, who also despatched £3 to the Defence Committee, collected at the 13-Mile Camp by Fellow-Worker Duggan. If it were possible to get I.W.W. speakers in this district, practically the whole of the workers could be brought in-line with the I.W.W. Our heartiest thanks are due to the militants of the Glenreagh-Dorrigo Construction Works.

Extensive speaking tours are being arranged for I.W.W. speakers to visit railway camps and mining towns. The first purpose is to propagate the principles of Industrial Unionism, the second, to secure funds for the defence of our fellow-workers lying in gaol awaiting trial on charges of treason, and thirdly, to get subscribers towards the new I.W.W. press, which we intend installing. If Wobblies desire a speaker, they are asked to communicate with the Secretary, Sydney Local.

A little while ago the shearers went out on strike against the squatters and the A.W.U. officials for better wages. The orthodox trade union movement turned them down, but the I.W.W. and the Broken Hill A.M.A. stuck to them. The shearers won out. Now the I.W.W. is in trouble, and the shearers are repaying in a splendid fashion for the support which they obtained. There is not a day which does not see the Defence Committee receive cheques and money from the various sheds. We thank our fellow-workers out back, whose solidarity and loyal support are helping to tide us through the hardest fight of our existence.

The boys in gaol are keeping their spirits splendidly, and looking forward to the day when they will be free to take their place in the ranks for the abolition of the foul system of exploitation. They send their greetings and their thanks to the boys who are paying and battling for them.

There is ONLY one Union. The Class Union. Within it, there is a place for every worker in industry. There is NO foreigner, save the exploiter. The abolition of the wage system is inevitable. Therefore, working men and women, organise to-day into the ONLY Union, the Industrial Workers of the World.

Written by Tom Barker (notorious and a "criminal"), 403 Sussex St., Sydney.

WANTED, 10,000 SUBSCRIBERS.

The authorities are attempting to stifle this paper by gaoing the Editor and Printer. We want all lovers of liberty to rally to our assistance. Collect subs., donate to the Press Fund, and increase your humble order. Do it now, and do it often!

There is only ONE working class, logically there should be only ONE union. That is the I.W.W.

GERMANY.

GENERAL STRIKE AGITATION.

There is a gigantic agitation taking shape amongst the German working class for the release of Karl Leibknecht, the prominent Socialist leader, and for the stoppage of the present war. The authorities are attempting to cope with this agitation, which is fostered by the existence of secret printing presses, which turn out leaflets by the million.

These circulars, which call upon the German soldiers to throw down their arms, have found their way into the trenches. Soldiers found in possession of these leaflets are arrested and court-martialled. The police are very busy, raiding private houses, seeking information about the situation of the secret presses. The "Leipsiger Volkszeitung" tells us that a few days ago that ten men were arrested at their homes in Stuttgart, while in Dusseldorf many arrests have been made for having in their possession anti-war leaflets.

The "Volksfreund" states that in the Seventh Military District (Elberfeld-arms) that many people have been arrested for the same offence.

In Berlin, on the date of the second anniversary of the war, the police and military attempted, without success, to break up gigantic demonstrations and processions, at which large banners were displayed on which were wordings as follows: "We demand the release of Leibknecht," "We want Peace," etc. Women armed with all sorts of weapons, were prominent in the demonstration.

The German authorities are decidedly nervous about the attitude of the people, but as the capitalist press hope that it will soon die down.—"Syndikalisten," Sweden.

BELGIUM.

700,000 UNEMPLOYED.

The German authorities are doing their utmost to compel the Belgian workers to undertake work in the coal mines, munition factories and railroads. The great majority refuse to work in Belgium until the war is ended, and peace declared. They realise that the more work they do, the longer the war will last. Sooner than undertake labor for the plunderers, the people of Belgium are prepared to starve.

Vanderveelde, the Belgian Socialist, interviewed in London, states that the passive resistance against the war in Belgium number quite 700,000—"Syndikalisten," Sweden.

BROKEN HILL ACTIVITIES.

Hall: 316 Argent Street.
 Wednesday Evening, at 7.30 p.m.—Educational Class.
 Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Business Class.
 Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Economic Sunday, at 7.40 p.m.—Outdoor Propaganda 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.
 Secretary-Treasurer, E. J. Kiely, 316 Argent Street, Broken Hill, N.S.W.

A WORD FROM PORTUGAL.

To the Editor.
 Sir—M. Lopez, a Portuguese, has written the subtitled verses, which I have faithfully translated. He desires to warn Australia against Conscription.

Curse of ten thousand curses,
 The vilest and the worst,
 Of earth's long train of evils
 The chiefest and the first!
 How on the blood of toilers
 It fattens and it thrives!
 How cruel and calculating
 It numbers human lives!
 This sends the young and noble
 To doom and death to roam,
 This makes the wrinkled miser
 The master of our home,
 With iron hand relentless
 It forces lives apart,
 The sharks of Hell's own ocean,
 It eats the worker's heart.
 To this they coolly ask you
 To open wide your door,
 This darling of the tyrant,
 This slayer of the poor!
 Arise, you free Australians,
 Repel its raid afar,
 And spurn it to perdition,
 Or men you never are!

Yours, etc.—
 E. PARRY
 Professor of Modern Greek,
 Queen Street, Ashfield.
 —Sydney "Truth."

According to the "S'merald," Mr. S. Lauzanne, formerly editor of the Paris "Matin," says that the British were compelled to sacrifice the crew of a tank in order to prevent the secrets of the tank's construction, becoming known to the Germans. The British shelled it and blew it to pieces. Of course, alleged military secrets are so very precious, and the lives of poor people so cheap. Really, the "S'merald" should not publish such matter; it is liable to damage recruiting.

Railway Strike: The cables inform us that owing to the dismissal of the G.W.R. men, 2000 goods-yards workers at Paddington adopted the go-slow policy. The loss in freight was £6000 daily. This means that the employers lost £3 a day prospective profit on every worker. We should soon hear the last of victimization if it cost the employers £2000 a day per man.

Treason: The accused awaiting trial could not obtain bail. An application for bail on behalf of F. Glynn two days later was refused by the magistrate. The trial will take place in a few days, and as it is likely to be an expensive affair, funds are required. We have no highly paid treasurers or officials, so that those who wish to contribute may rest assured that all donations will be used for the purposes of defending these men, and duly acknowledged.

Last week an error crept into the paper. The collection in the hall on Sunday, October 13th was over £5—not £25, as printed.

Conscription: Although placing no faith in the ballot box—apart from the danger of placing extra power over the lives and destinies of the people, in the hands of politicians, without the slightest guarantee that this power will not be abused—it seems advisable, from a working-class standpoint, for psychological reasons that as many votes as possible should be polled against conscription.

The I.W.W. is non-political, and members are at liberty to vote how they like. Whether the referendum is carried or lost, we are hostile to all forms of militarism. We have always said "No," and will continue to say "No." An emphatic "No," which applies to the past, present and future. On this matter, unlike some of his ministers, we are in harmony with the Prince of Peace.

Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever!

SOUTH COAST NOTES.

This last week there has been three fellow workers from the Sydney headquarters making a propaganda tour of the South Coast, in the persons of F.W's. Farrell, Foley, and Goldsmith.

Meetings were held at Helensburgh, Stanwell Park, Otford, Scarborough, Thirroul, and Woonona, and, needless to say, were all very successful, especially the ones at Stanwell Park and Scarborough, where good collections were taken up, close upon £12 being collected on the trip. As a result of the tour it is intended to start a local at Scarborough, and, we hope to have one in all the principal mining camps along the line in a very short while.

FROM THE SHEDS.

Wallendoon, via Wallendbeen, started on 19th at full rates, 30/ for shearing, £3 shed hands, £4 wool presser.

Five of us arrived from Sydney on Friday to find the rest signed on at 27/6 per hundred for shearing, £2/5/ shed hands, and presser £3.

But, on our putting the pressure on, the agreements were altered to the full rates.

A shed hand who was sent up was at first told that he was not wanted, but as the men refused to start without him, the "boss" gave in, and with tears in his voice informed us that "we were boss," and himself apparently a dummy, adding that "next year there would be no thirty bob for shearing, as the Germans would be here," and they would only pay us three bob a hundred."

TOM SULLIVAN, Shed Rep.

DEFENCE FUND.

Adelaide Local, £2/10; Returned Soldier, 5/; C. Smith, 2/6; J. F. Hartley, Merece Shearers' Rep., £20; S. F. Hogan, Rep. Shearers, "Hobo" Tasmania, £1; per S. F. Radley, Rep.; Yarra Yarra Station, £2/12; Sympathiser, 1/; W. E. D. 1/; D. Johnson, 1/; H. Bryant, 3/; Collection Bathurst St., £2/0/2; ton and Trewhen. Coff's Harbor, £3/12/0; Dangalar Stn., via Walgett, £8/7/6; W. Sibbs, 5/; D. Wakefield, 5/; J. Edwards, 5/; J. D., 1/ per J. R. Wilson, Melbourne, Local, No. 8, £32/5/; J. W. Brennan, 5/; J. Sullivan, 6/; C. Russell, Adelaide, 2/6; per Hough-per Reps. Stanwell Park (tabulated elsewhere) £12/11.

Our inequality materialises our upper class, vulgarises our middle class, brutalises our lower class.—Matthew Arnold.

The editor makes no apology for this issue of "Direct Action." Owing to recent events, we are hampered with this issue. Any impartial person following the trend of recent events knows well that the persecution meted out to members of the I.W.W. is part and parcel of that malice which has been laid out to us by the other I.W.W. We refer to the "I Want War" organisation. Not long ago a prominent statesman thought it to advise his followers to go for the I.W.W. with the ferocity of Bengal tigers. Since we have taken a prominent part in denouncing the conscription conspiracy, the organs of vested interest have carried on a campaign of lies against us. Nearly all the prominent men in the I.W.W. have been gaoled on some charge or other. Attempts have also been made to break up our meetings, victimise members, block the sale of the paper, and in other ways smash the organisation. We know that this comes from the other I.W.W. Nearly all the political renegades, murder mongers, sanctimonious sweaters, I won't work parasites, and other undesirables who are busy telling us to fight for liberty elsewhere, are banded together in that organisation of commercial pirates. Their ideal is Industrial Serfdom, ours is Industrial Democracy. If our ideas are wrong, there is a splendid opportunity for the organs of plutocracy to expose them. If right, those ideas will live and thrive in spite of oppression. John Stuart Mill, over sixty years ago, wily demonstrated that it was necessary in the interests of society that the rights of small minorities should be protected, because they represented progressive thought and nurtured the ideals which would blossom in the future.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who make up the employing class have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organise as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the 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.

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

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

WORKERS DEFENCE FUND.

CASH COLLECTED AT STANWELL PARK

Killey Gang, A. Pritchard, 15/-; P. Clarke's Williams, 18/6; H. Barry's Gang, Hodec, 9/6; Sutherland's Gang, T. Stapley, 14/8; Hill's Gang, S. Stapley, 14/8; Hill's Gang, A. Bancroft, £1/4/6; Zibet Gang, A. Ford, 6/0; Callaghan's Gang, R. Shannon, £2/2/; Young's Gang, J. Callaghan, £2/3/6; Smith's Gang, 1/-; Greenwood's Gang, S. Sheridan, 10/-; Sharp's Gang, J. Brazel, 8/-; Pattison's Gang, B. Scully, £1/0/0.

Total, £12/11/0.
 Signed—President, John Callaghan; Treasurer, Bernard Scully.

Negotiations are now on to secure a large printing plant in the city, to publish "Direct Action." We want £250 in a month. And we are going to get it.

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

Published by Andrew Wallace, 403 Sussex Street, and printed by H. Cook and Co., 200 Castlereagh St., Sydney.