

RALLY TO THE  
BANNER OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE

THE  
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By The  
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of  
Australia

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ON this day, 7th November, when toilers all over the world are celebrating the 11th ANNIVERSARY of the FIRST WORKERS' REPUBLIC of SOVIET RUSSIA, it is well to recall to mind the significance of the Russian Revolution generally, and especially as regards the women of the Working class.

How has the Russian Revolution affected the status of working class women? In Soviet Russia the women have been emancipated politically, economically and culturally. In the old Russia which had always been cited in terms of horror, where the toiling masses had lived through a Hell on earth, the lot of the working and peasant women was that of a doubly oppressed and exploited creature.

In the new Russia, where the working class is the ruling class, the women of the working class has been freed from her shackles and has entered into the new life which has broken with all the traditions, prejudices and lies that belonged to capitalist society. In Soviet Russia the woman, for the first time in history, is found taking active part in the political, social, economic and cultural life of the new proletarian State. We find her in the Soviets (government councils) in the economic administration, in the schools and universities, and in all social organs of the U.S.S.R.

We find her in the process of shedding the remnants of darkness, ignorance, apathy and the bitterness born of hopelessness, and taking on the new role of a co-partner, a co-builder of the new social order, side by side with the men.

How about women in the rest of the world? What is the position of woman in the "advanced" capitalist countries? And what is the lot of the millions of working or peasant women in the colonial and semi-colonial countries?

In China, India and in the other countries oppressed by imperialism, woman's position is lower even than that of a slave. She is non-existent politically, she is frightfully exploited economically, she has no standing socially, she is isolated culturally. Read the reports on labor conditions, especially as regards women in China, India, etc. Fivepence a day, no Sunday, no holiday, giving birth to child at the loom in the textile mill or in the hell of the match factory! .... such is her lot.

And the working woman in our "civilised" capitalist countries? Here she is still the "second-rate" citizen. If she is not the slave of the boss (who exploits her at half the wage paid to men for the same work) she is the slave of the so-called "home" where she bears the brunt of the economic dependence of the male "supporter" on capitalism. Unemployment, starvation, the burden of rearing and educating children, etc. --- all this is the lot of the working class woman.

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WHY A MILITANT WOMEN'S MOVEMENT?

The attack of the capitalist class the world over on the wages and conditions of the workers is becoming more evident in this so-called "sunny" Australia. The recent Beeby Award resulting in the Waterside dispute, the threatened reduction of 12/- in the basic wage, and the proposed reduction in the miners' wages, etc. clearly demonstrate this attack.

Repressive measures against the workers, such as the Crimes Act, Bruce's Amendments to the Arbitration Act, and more recently the Transport Workers' Act, have been introduced during the last year or two.

These regulations now having become law, can be utilised whenever necessary by the bosses; they are prepared for the struggle that promises to be a very bitter one.

To prevent themselves being crushed down to a level that the British and European workers have reached, or even to that of the coolie in India and China, the workers of Australia must prepare the whole of their forces to meet the attack of the bosses.

The Militant Women's Movement, realising that one big force of the workers - half their number - are women, are endeavouring to rally these women into the working class movement.

Women in the "home" bear the brunt of a reduction in the men's wages - endeavouring to feed and clothe themselves and their children on less than the already inadequate wage; women and girls in industry receiving only about half the wage obtained by men, although many of them are doing men's work **MUST ASSIST ALONG WITH THEIR MENFOLK** in the fight that the bosses are so well prepared for and are forcing upon the workers in order that their profits can still be maintained.

Join the **MILITANT WOMEN'S MOVEMENT** and learn to assist efficiently in the everyday struggles that you are called upon to face, and to take your part in the bigger fight for the **EMANCIPATION OF THE WORKING CLASS.**

Editorial (Contd from Page 1)

Only the overthrow of capitalism, the shattering of the whole foundation on which it rests, will free woman from her present position. Only the victorious working class, after capitalism is defeated (as completely as in Russia) can and will raise woman to political, economic and social equality with men.

For this end, the women of the working class must work hand in hand with the class conscious vanguard of the men workers. That is the purpose and meaning of the Militant Women's Groups established in various centres of Australia. Our slogan for women is: **INTO THE CLASS STRUGGLE.** We are members of the working class, we are exploited by the master class, we and our children suffer doubly from wage cuts and increased living costs, we are attacked, we must fight - not a sex war but the **CLASS WAR.** A United front with the men comrades against the boss! A United front for the overthrow of the system!

We stand for **GOOD CONDITIONS** not peaceful and friendly relations with the boss.

To get **GOOD CONDITIONS** WE often have to disturb friendly relations.

DEATH TO THE PEACE IN  
INDUSTRY UNION!A Story of Treachery.

Once upon a time there were two fighters for the working class - Tom and Adela Walsh. Tom was nearly deported from Australia for his activities while Adela addressed huge crowds in an appeal to British miners on strike.

But one day this pair found they could make more money by lying to the workers and attempting to cripple trade unions. This discovery turned them into rats. They got in touch with an English rat called Havelock Wilson who got support, both financially and "spiritually" from English capitalists and the Aussie rats at once began to organise a Peace in Industry Union which aims at making the workers passive slaves of the boss.

Adela is now attempting to gain support from the women for her scab outfit. Women of the working class must fight Adela and the Peace in Industry Union to the death - that is, if they do not want to see lowered the workers' conditions and our standard of living.

DEMAND:

Free Meals in School for  
Workers' Children!