



# The Struggle.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. This is the keynote of the latest manifesto, 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 honor, 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 organize into one union instead of having thousands of little trade or craft unions to fight one against the other over what? Democracy? There is no other light. 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 organization that can abolish the wage system? And we also find that the controlling of the management of industries into fewer and better 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 railroad 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 organization 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 in any department. The departments, theoretically, are as follows:—

- Department of Agriculture (Land).
- Department of Fisheries (Water Production).
- Department of Mining, Department of Transport, and Communication, Department of Manufacturing and General Production, Department of Constitution, Department of Public Service.

So the army of production must be organized, not only for the every day struggle with the Capitalist, but also to carry on organization when the Capitalist shall have been overthrown. By organizing 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.L.W.U. Evidently a recent article in "Direct Action" did not please the officials. It may be that the Moulders' Journal to know 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.L.W.U. does not answer "Direct Action" and has no application to the local movement.

**The "Parsons and Co."**—The Labour movement from the I.L.W.U. It is a few years since it was to revive the same movement from the A.A.A. and the Labour Party. The same thing took place and the result was a few more strikes and misunderstandings, which is not a new thing, with its conceptions of work, no-class, but consisting of danger and luck's play.

## 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 Llanelli 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?

Mr. ADDISON: A military working party of 120 soldiers, under an officer, was supplied to the Llanelli Steel Company. These men were all stationed to the neighbourhood, and for the first few days were paraded and marched from the drill hall, which was a convenient work, to the work. The roll call is now taken at the work. On Sunday, 20th 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?

Mr. 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 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 does not pay less than the standard rate of wages paid to other people?

Mr. ADDISON: I should like notice of that.

Mr. HODGE: Is the right hon. Gentleman being aware that in a great many others, with a view to the customary strike pay, have been granted?

Mr. 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 formerly done as 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 strike pay being granted?

Mr. 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. OUTHWATE: 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?

Mr. 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?

Mr. 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 scuffle they've made again, It's up to you to solve 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, rise up to-day, The war is on it fierce array, The weapon you must use to fight, Is "One Big Union," 't might be 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.L.W.U. When we get a circulation of 10,000 we want a newer and more up-to-date press, a press that can give "Direct Action" as fast as Fairfax's machines can turn out the "Smerald."

Such a press can be obtained for about £250. We have got to get this money, if the members want the continuation of our printing this paper. We have seen her grow from 2,500 per month up to 2,000 a week in just over two years, and we can guarantee, with the aid of a little more N.S.W. circulation 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—the work's 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 millionaires' rate.

New, time creates a need for new methods and machinery. Let's have that quit 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 £43/8.

Dean Talbot, the Hon. D. R. Hall, Mr. Land and other stay-at-home enthusiastic members of the convention, on Monday last, addressed a large and interested audience of miners, large and plain clothes people on the Sydney Domain last Sunday. Needless to say, the meeting was extremely orderly, comprised as it was of scattered individuals, or families 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 on 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 returned for a week, on their application.

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





