

VOL. III, No. 96. Registered at the General Post-office, Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper. SYDNEY, November 11, 1916. ONE PENNY.

## Persecution

WAR, WHAT FOR ON THE I.W.W.?

(A. Mack.)

"What is the motive behind the savage and monstrous persecution of the I.W.W.?" is the question thoughtful people are asking themselves today.

It may be well to state here for the benefit of any who do not know, that the I.W.W. stand for "Industrial Workers of the World," an organisation that advocates the building up of One Big Union of the working class on industrial lines; it is therefore opposed to the present craft organisation, claiming them to be out of date and consequently useless. For months past readers of the daily papers have been regaled with wonderful stories of the alleged criminal activities of the I.W.W. This was done, of course, to damage the organisation in the eyes of the people by leading them to believe it to be composed of criminals and crooks. There was at one period a suspicion that the people would fall to the trick and persecute the I.W.W., but the authorities pursued their dirty tactics just a little too far, and the result is a turning of public sympathy in our favour.

The plate papers, the politicians, and the craft union officials have been our most persistent and venomous opponents, and they have described us as unscrupulous criminals—backed by German gold—who are seeking to destroy society, to disrupt the sacred Labor Party, and smash up the Trade Union movement in this glorious workman's paradise. Though always hated because of the fear of our potential power, regardless, this hate and fear assumed material form when the I.W.W. originated the campaign against conscription many months ago, and since then the "powers" have not "let up" for one day; the reign of oppression reaching the zenith when the conscription fight was raging at its highest, and when twelve of our members were arrested and flung into prison as a charge of treason. These men, and many others throughout Australia, all of them the standard fighters of every strike on behalf of the working class, are now awaiting trial—and possibly years of brutal treatment in master class dungeons.

The politicians, the union secretaries, and plutocrats are all gloating over the treatment meted out to our members; they have no reason to be afraid of us, and they fear us because they fear us in the organisation we advocate a weapon by which the workers may come to their own. The capitalist has visions of dwindling profits, while the politicians and union officials can feel their good jobs becoming less secure.

According to the "Sun" of 2nd November, one union official declares the I.W.W. members to be a greater pest to the nation than they are to the Railway Commissioner, and consequently they ought to be got rid of. This individual is ashamed enough to know that another year or so of Industrial Union propaganda will relieve him of his job, because the workers will have awakened to the sturdiness of craft organisations championed by parasitical, self-seeking union secretaries.

The politicians are in the same boat, for as the I.W.W. is a non-political organisation, it is forcing nations to spend the major funds on educational work, than to waste them on political schemes, these gentlemen can feel no workmen stepping upon them with an uncertain step should the I.W.W. be permitted to live on un molested.

The opposition, then, of all three classes is prompted by personal gain; they are all afraid of losing their jobs. The Labor politicians and the union secretaries pretend to be deeply concerned about the welfare of the worker, but more than a superficial examination of their attitude is necessary to convince us that in truth they don't care a damn about the conditions of the working man; if they did they would willingly assist in perfecting the economic plan of his job, because the workers will soon every generation making for its perfection. The I.W.W. claims that the fight for political power is not the real fight; the real fight is the struggle for the control of industry, and this can be fought in the industry by the workers themselves; hence we realise that politicians cannot win emancipation for the working class, and so we have depended on the politicians and so little have we relied upon our



In some countries districts the polling has been postponed for a week owing to heavy floods.—(News News, 1/11/16.)

Wobley:—"I s'pose I'll get the blame for this."

### Our Workers!

We strength have been so hypnotised in the past by political opportunists that they actually believed better conditions could come only through the politicians. The gods of the Labor Party have failed because they had no hope of success. Bland labor officials and political schemers blame the leaders, and seek to elect new leaders, who must in turn fail, and will in all probability be displaced by others, and so the game will go on until the workers become wise to the position.

One of the chief objects of the I.W.W. is to educate the working class, to show them the true position of the political scoundrel, and prepare them for the fight on the industrial battle field. Our success has been wonderful; it has astonished and astounded the "powers that be." They know we have the key to the industrial paralysis, and because of our success all the machinery of the capitalist State has been turned loose against us.

Our hall has been raided periodically as a matter of principle, our literature, our papers, pictures, and press have all been confiscated; our members and speakers have been arrested and charged with almost every crime on the calendar; the authorities are making unscrupulous, bitter and frantic attempts to stifle the propaganda of the I.W.W.—GO UP TO IT!

Wilson gave an eloquent address to a packed audience, which was very enthusiastic. Donations, subscribers and new members are steadily coming in. Although the monies for the Labor Fund have been considerable there is room for more, as the trial is likely to be a very costly business, and some of these men have dependants who are in need of finance.

**The Coal Strike**—The miners seem determined to fight to a finish to gain their very reasonable demands. If they stick solid and are not side tracked the great probability is that the Government will be pleased to publish another dealing with their case.

**Treason Trial**—Some days ago the Crown thought fit to alter the charges (which are now practically reduced to arson and conspiracy), and also alter the date of trial. As this now means hardly allows the accused a chance to prepare their defence last week Mr. White, their solicitor, tried to postpone the trial to the original date, Nov. 20th. The matter was postponed to Monday, Nov. 6th, when the defence raised objections to the trial being forthwith proceeded with.

After hearing counsel the judge decided that the case be listed for Nov. 20th.

## The Wheat Fires.

BRITISH JUSTICE.

Some weeks ago two members who happened to have gone to the country on a holiday, were arrested and charged on suspicion of having set fire to a haystack. Apparently the evidence was so slight that even the conservative authorities could not see their way to commit them for trial. The Sydney "Sun" prints the following without any comment:

"The Attorney-General has declined to file a bill against George F. Finn and Wm. G. Thompson. They were committed for trial from Lockhart Coroner's Court to Wagga Quarter Sessions, on November 8, on a charge of maliciously setting fire to wheat stacks at Lockhart on October 4."

It seems that Finn and Thompson arrived at Lockhart with the intention of spending a holiday. There was no evidence as to how the hay caught fire, all we know is that two I.W.W. men and a detective had arrived in the district. As detectives never set fire to things the authorities arrested our comrades. One witness said he had seen them going along a road about a quarter of a mile from the haystack; the fact that they were members of an alleged criminal organisation was considered quite sufficient grounds for detaining them. After being held in bond for some time the Attorney-General now declines to file a bill, with the result that they, after being put to great inconvenience, are free to wander on the track to seek another master. To throw men into gaol because one witness says he saw them a considerable distance from the scene of the fire is grossly unfair. If they had not been I.W.W. men it is improbable that they would have been arrested. Some fires are purely accidental, others again may be caused by people anxious to get the insurance money. In America cases have been known where detectives caused fires for reasons of their own. Of course they don't do that in Australia, neither are there any people eager to take insurance companies down. Australia being a peculiar country, the chemical laws affecting combustion do not apply here. Every fire must be put down to I.W.W. men, probably every flood is traceable to the same source. Meanwhile the two men can go on their way secure in the knowledge that British justice is full of the milk of human kindness.

### RISE ABOVE THE SOURCE.

He rises from the muck and slime,  
The humble worker in the ranks,  
And after he has served his time,  
At buying votes and counting blanks  
His honors shewly come across  
And he becomes a party boss.

In this position he must stoop  
To anything that brings success;  
With crafty gratters loots the loot,  
And save the bootlers from distress,  
And as his party leader calls  
He braves the legislative halls.

Soon things begin to come his way,  
For little favors he can do  
For persons who will gladly pay  
To make their shady deals put through;  
With reckless hand he plays the game  
And reaps a certain kind of fame.

Now coming out from all this stench  
By hook and crook and scheme and plot  
He grabs a place upon the bench,  
And says what's law and what is not;  
His nature's decisions pure and strong  
And never after can do wrong.

—D.M.S. in "Appeal to Reason."

## News and Notes.

**EMPIRE HALL, COLEDALE.**  
Friday, Nov. 10th, at 7.30 p.m. Prompt.

**TOM BARKER**  
Will Lecture on  
"THE NEW UNIONISM."

Chairman—Mr. D. McGehe.  
Collection to Defray Expenses.  
**FRED. LOWDEN.**

Secretary.

**The Referenda**—There can be little doubt that No has won, although the capitalist press are very vague on the matter. We are glad to see the Anti-conscriptionists and Trades and Labor Council are moving with a view to the repeal of the proclamation. Workers should be wide awake, as the defeat of conscription at the ballot box is not sufficient.

**Local Activities**—The usual weekly meetings were held. Conferences report attentive audiences, and good sales of literature. The Sunday school Domain meeting was well attended. Donations totalled £16/8. "Direct Action" again sold very well at the gates. In the evening J.

All unsigned articles are written or collated by the editor, J. A. Kinnam, 403 Sussex-street, Sydney.

# Direct Action

# An Appeal.

WEEKLY

OFFICIAL ORGAN

OF THE  
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF  
THE WORLD.

(Australian Administration)

Office: 403 Sussex Street, Sydney, Australia.

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

HEADQUARTERS, I.L.W. (Australia): 403 SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

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

## The Struggle Ahead.

Whether the purpose of the Referenda is defeated or not, and even presuming it is defeated, the class war for industrial control will go on just the same. It is almost a economic necessity for the owning class that the workers should be conscripted in industry if they are to compete successfully after the war with German merchants.

With the presentation of the world war a perilous situation presents itself to the capitalists in Australia. As man power becomes scarce labour will be dear. It is, therefore, necessary for them to have this so-called national calamity. Already apart from the conscription issue they are taking steps on the industrial field to safeguard their interests at the workers' expense.

With or without conscription for service abroad the women and children are destined to be industrially conscripted here, unless the workers are alert. Conscription was only required to make assurance doubly sure, and was not an essential condition of success in the class struggle which will be decided on the industrial field, and not the military arena, as some ignorant workers seem to think. Defeating conscription on the ballot, although of some psychological value, does not improve the workers' economic position. We stand just where we were, if anything a little worse off than before the referenda on the industrial field. Although there may be a little political reform here or some social liberty there, economic servitude still starves the workers in the face.

It has studied by every thinker who has studied the labour movement since that a thorough reorganisation of industry is necessary to meet the changing economic conditions. The biological law of progress applies to social relations. Either we progress or retrogress. There is no via media to be found in conciliation. Neither is there any haven of refuge in capitulation. Labour organisations have to stand up to the economic forces at least at least keep pace with economic development. If the psychology of the unit is weak and the form of industrial organisation obsolete then labour inevitably will sink back into the economic slavery of the past. The psychology of the unit is vital and the economic science then labour will produce all its difficulties, for labour produces all, and has the economic power to conquer all.

Whatever may be the differences of opinion as to ways and means it is the end, and not the tactics that here, of prime importance. Once the will to industrial control and the desire for a free wage permeates the mass the rest will follow quickly.

Where there is a will there is a way is a truism that applies forcibly to the labour movement of Australia at this juncture. Once this fact is clearly recognised, one can confidently look forward to the day when capitalist will fall never to rise again, morally wounded by the strong arm of organised labour.

Who halt the power that she wield with terror,  
Who halt the wealth bestowed on camps and courts,  
Who seek to reduce the human mind from error,  
Who were so used for animals and force.

The worker's mind would be a more abhorred, And every nation that has been so used, It had against a brother, on its forehead, Would wear for evermore the curse of Cain.

—Langfellow.

Follow Workers,

Lying in Long Bay Prison at the present moment are twelve of Labour's staunchest fighters for the cause of working class freedom. By their efforts, by their class consciousness, by their unceasing activity on your behalf they have brought about a condition of things that has made the mass of this country their determined enemies.

Why are these men selected out for drastic punishment? Why has the whole system of capitalist rule, your class biased masters been brought to bear upon these men?

Because they succeeded in awakening the working class.  
Because they had become dangerous to the interests of the profit mongering exploiters of the working class.

Because they taught a system of organisation and revolt that meant business.  
Listen. You are wage workers. You are tools in servitude. You are not free men. Your wives are not free women. Every day your lives are in danger in one form or another. From one day to the next you may wake up and find your liberties are jeopardised, you have rotten conditions, your only value is that of cattle, your safety is of no importance, you have not even the ordinary right of work, and you do not even have to worry about unemployment.

The twelve men in jail know all these things. By night and main have they striven, sacrificing health, comfort and liberty to reconstruct society.

Follow workers, it is up to you. These men need help.

Were not you for the propaganda of these men, make to mistake, Australia would be shackled to-day with conscription.  
They fought the politicians, they exposed the fraud and corruption of the people's misleaders, they organised the office-hunters and place-holders into action. They made it impossible for these creatures to deceive the public. Such a mighty work did they do that the massing class knew well that before long they would rouse you, the wage-workers, to realise your position, and in doing this the capitalist exploiters saw their speedy ruin and downfall. They knew well that once you were thoroughly enlightened and class conscious, you would sweep away the parasites battenning upon you, and you would institute clean, just laws on your own behalf. They knew well that you alone were best fitted to govern.

Criminally on the part of the master class hegets criminality by their awkward staves, but so far, nothing has been proved against them. Once more, they need your help, it is up to you, this is your fight, and upon you rests the answer. Speak, then, with one mighty voice, and give the masses the living truth, reduce, show them that the working class of Australia is awake to their fraud and insolently instead and quell you.

These men are clean and honorable and straight, and your support is necessary.

—W. JONES.

### THE I.L.W. AND CHARITY.

Some of the capitalist press make sneering remarks because the I.L.W. is soliciting contributions for a fund to be used solely for the purpose of saving some of its members from being railroaded on true charges and sentences.

According to capitalist ethics it is really a most immoral thing that mere helping class people should attempt to do in an unscrupulous and vicious manner. This sentiment comes from the same capitalist press that has always called upon the police to attack up for their liberties. Of course they really mean fight in the interests of the capitalist class—a class that pretends to speak in the name of the people.

Although not prone to organising ending crusades we see no reason why the I.L.W. should not have the same rights as churches, unions, and various societies which frequently make in large sums during the year and have little or nothing to show to account for.

The I.L.W. has the advantage of most societies. The money collected is not squandered in ostentatious displays or receive is utilised for the purpose for which it is given. All that is over goes into the pockets of propagandists. The capitalist press, if it took the trouble to enquire

could verify that statement for its own satisfaction. Of course, it would not pay the plutocratic press to grant anything that does not harmonise with snobish sentiment. This same press, which booms charity crusades, is incumbent to the workers to help themselves—a most charitable act truly—an effort worthy of the highlings of plutocracy, who in season and out of season are never weary of discarding on the blessings of charity.

## Alpine Activities.

On approaching the navies' camp at Alpine last Saturday afternoon, a cart of black smoke was seen making its way skywards, and great hilarity was heard amongst those assembled.  
Upon arriving at the scene of excitement it was found that a fire had been raging, which was fed by willing hands, and the ashes revealed the remains of an edifice of our Prime Minister, Billy Hughes.

Many navies were not content with valuing "No" but rebelled against their opposition to the "Yes" crowd, so they formed themselves into a procession, and with their wives and children followed behind a coffin in a mock dead march until they reached the stake, when Billy Hughes' edifice was erected and the cremation took place amid great excitement of men, women and children.

Previous to the above demonstration a large crowd visited the local picture show, and demanded that an I.L.W. meeting for the following Sunday be advertised upon the above.

The proprietor at first bluntly refused to advertise an I.L.W. meeting for nothing, but when he found that the navies intended to boycott his show he quickly relaxed and got the above.

By a show of solidarity and the threat of the boycott the I.L.W. got their meeting advertised per medium of a picture show.

The denizens of Alpine were disturbed last Saturday night by the low roar of an announcing the I.L.W. meeting. Following this a large crowd upon the "Necessity of Industrial Organisation." The meeting was orderly to the finish, and many pertinent questions were asked, which I.L.W. tactics was explained to the amusement and instruction of the crowd. The meeting closed with three cheers for the I.L.W.

On Sunday morning, at the Fiveville Camp, a good meeting was held, and the treasurer charges were dealt with.

Mr. Webster, representative for the navies, was in the chair, and asked for a good hearing for the speaker, and not to judge the impression of the speaker, and not to judge the impression of the speaker.

The crowd was full of interest, and attentively listened to the speaker all through. At the close of the meeting the following resolution was carried unanimously:—  
"That this meeting of the members of the I.L.W. on the charge of treason, and demands their immediate release."

Also, the speaker, at his meeting pledges itself to assist the I.L.W. in the present trouble financially and morally."

The navies left the impression that they were in this fight for the release of the prisoners, and would do all in their power to assist.

At the Sevenville Camp on Sunday afternoon, Mr. Robertson, an official of the I.L.W., presided at the meeting, and with brevity explained the present situation, and how the class has suffered in the past, and what they should do to-day. He stated that all tollers should be paid the I.L.W. in the present fight, which was simply a war between the bosses and the workers. The treasurer charges were then dealt with.

Motions of a similar nature to the thanking the speaker for his address and wishing long life to the I.L.W.

On Sunday night, at the Elevenville Camp, treasurer charges, and also answer some questions which had cropped up during the past week.

At 6.45 the local hall was packed to its full extent, which included several women.  
Mr. Whitton, a member of the local I.L.W., was in the chair, and introduced the speaker, who was of the treasurer charges. The following necessity of industrial organisation was exposed, and demanded that the navies pledged themselves and morally—to bring about the release of the wage-class champions who are languishing in jail.

It that Substant was given the lady judge of some of the disturbers the elements and silence the night.

If resolutions, applause, cheers and exhibitions in the various forest action, then the navies railway are going to be very busy soon. All the reps in the different gangs have sub-

scription lists from the Defence Committee, and it is expected that the tollers will respond liberally to the cause which means so much to every member of the working class.

The puny attempts of the master class to suppress the I.L.W. only helps to solidify the ranks and brings in new recruits every day.

It is a pity that the I.L.W. has been so long in Australia, not to be wiped out, despite what the facts of the case show.

Let them go to it; let them do their worst, they will always be found that the I.L.W. will thrive, and grow, when those who tried to kill it are long since dead.

Our official meetings might be stopped; our hall might be closed; but, best of all, our propaganda goes on for ever.

—N.R.

### THE ART OF GOVERNMENT.

The following extracts are from Machiavelli's celebrated book, "The Prince," written over 400 years ago. Whatever the author's intentions may have been in submitting his "Prince" to the consideration of the Pope, it is certain that things historical are daily happening in accordance with the teachings of Machiavelli. To what extent Machiavellianism are still of use, let the thinking reader judge for himself.

... He (the Duke of Burgundy) refused to do the future to rely alone on artifice and dissimulation. . . . They (his old-time friends) tended the Duke at an interview at Sigüenza where they were all massed by his order. . . . I found a thorough review, therefore, of the Duke's conduct and action. I cannot speak him having omitted any particulars, and I feel that he merits being proposed as a model to all, who, by fortune or foreign arms succeed in acquiring sovereignty.

... I conclude, that the usurper of a State should commit all the cruelties which his advisers render necessary, at once. . . . Matters a severity, therefore, should be finished at once; for when time is allowed for resentment to be wound is not so deep; but benefits should be distributed to the multitude, at a time, that they may be better reconciled.

... Measures should be so taken that when men cease to believe of their own accord they may be constrained to it by force. Messors Cyrus, Trajanus and Romulus could never last secured an observance of the constitutions devised severally farthered than by force of arms.

I cannot but warn prices of the necessity they are under to fortify and provision the place of their residence, without trusting themselves about the rest of the country. It may perhaps be objected that the people who possess property in the country, and who see their land attached to their price will not long consent to the inconveniences of a long absence, and desire of preserving their property. I answer, that a prudent and spirited prince will easily surmount these obstacles, either by imposing the people, and property, his last quality will soon be over, or by the use of the proper means and cruelty of the conqueror, or by taking moment means to appease those who are dissatisfied.

It is safer to be feared than loved, if it is indispensable for a prince not to be able to make it have all the good qualities. He should make a name, above all things, never to offend, good faith, and kindnes, for anything which he has to appear to possess, the world in general judges more from appearance than from reality.

... Numerous resolutions cost nothing. . . . Vain promises, engagements, and treaties have yielded by treachery, and those of the part of the fox have always been routed, but in their affairs. It is necessary, however, to disguise the appearance of an end, and to thoroughly understand the art of feigning and dissembling; for men are generally simple and so weak, that he who wishes to deceive easily finds dupes.

It is very amusing to listen to self-courted specialists for conscription:—"You know, I believe it to be, I have listed all my boys, I wish we could do without it. But the E. I. is in danger, civilization is in danger, so I must vote for it." Some of these statesmen profess to be the faithful servants of the Church. Poor Church—Poor Church—Poor Church.

### SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

For "DIRECT ACTION"  
Enclosed please find P.O. for 4/ for one year to the following address:—  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FILL IT IN NOW!

# The Twilight of the Idols

GOLD THE GOD.

(By Ajax.)

[The night is dark and stormy. Thick clouds up the sea with a ruddy glow. On land the armies are in deadly combat, the incessant rattle of musketry making itself heard above the deep booming of cannon. Cries, shrieks, groans and the piercing cry of wounded warriors is mingled with the shout of the victors and the pleas of the vanquished. A bedlam of noises, smoke, and the stench of burning corpses is wafted through the darkness to the eye on the hill, where the Gods preside in gloom on the scene.]

Christ: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Christ: Suffer little children to come unto Me.

God (angrily): Tut, tut, Carpenter. Can't you see your lotus are wanted for the satyagrahis, especially as so many names are dying down there. That sentimental stuff is all very well in the Sunday School, but the wheels of industry must be greased.

Christ: The world for Christ.

God: I am Gold, your God.

Jehovah: There shall not be any other God before or after thee.

A minister: From all pestilence, war and death.

A congregation: Good Lord, deliver us.

Mahomet: Those Christians certainly do seem busy killing one another down there.

Shiva: Aye, even as they slaughtered my millions in India.

Jehovah: I must admit the squabbles I caused are tame affairs compared to this. I thought the Carpenter taught them better ethics.

Christ: We certainly had some bloody fights in my time, but those submarines are too much for me.

A priest: God defend the right.

A nun: Let saints on earth in concert sing.

God (wearily): I am Gold, behold O synchroptans, your God.

Mars: Our historians say our people ages ago were as barbaric as the earth-men, it is to be regretted the latter will become sane and give up their foolishness.

God: I am Gold, their God, and as long as I reign they will obey me.

Monks (chanting): Glory be to God on high.

A congregation: For ever and ever, Amen.

[The sounds of the battle have died down. The broken ranks of the armies are exhausted and busy attending to the dead and wounded. The cannon no longer "booms" forth their messages of death across the field of battle, where thousands of stricken combatants cry out in their distress to the ministers of the sick. All is quiet on the ocean, the battleships have disappeared into the blackness of the night, and another day for bodies and some wreckage shows that there has been a naval encounter. There is a strange silence hanging over the sea, which is only broken by the rhythmic rattle of the waves breaking on the rocks in the distance.]

God, gleefully: I am Gold, behold O synchroptans, your God.

Christ: My victims did some damage, but those dreadnoughts are fearful monsters.

Jehovah: I caused a little rumput in Judah, but those tribal fights are a mere trifle to this.

Mars: My astronomers say another spasm of madness has afflicted the animals on the World.

The moon, which has been obscured by thick clouds, now appears, and says: I have watched the earth men for many ages. They blout and struggle like maggots. They have made a pretence of veneration to the Gods, to cover up their foolishness and folly. In turn they have worshipped Shiva, Indra, Thor, Mahomet, Christ, and many others, but through your madness you appear to have risen in their hearts of hearts only love gold.

God: I am Gold, behold O synchroptans, your God.

I am above all pomp and ostentation, I am the ruler of every nation. I thought priests part of their creed, I know it's me they need.

[At this point there is some commotion among the shades below whose cause is a figure, sorrowing and weeping a crowd of those, some forward.]

Shiva: Why, it is the Nazarene. He is not even beautiful.

Mahomet: My followers had a terrible struggle with his believers.

Christ (passionately): And I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto me.

God: You, thou wert lifted up. Thou wert picked up on two sticks and died because thou wert against me.

Shiva: Handsomer men have shared a worse fate.

Jehovah: The Nazarene was crucified, but too much fuss has been made about that business.

Christ: A case of heavy firing is now denoting, and the cries and groans of the combatants can be distinctly heard in the vault of heaven. A huge battleship blows up and momentarily lights

up the sea with a ruddy glow. On land the armies are in deadly combat, the incessant rattle of musketry making itself heard above the deep booming of cannon. Cries, shrieks, groans and the piercing cry of wounded warriors is mingled with the shout of the victors and the pleas of the vanquished. A bedlam of noises, smoke, and the stench of burning corpses is wafted through the darkness to the eye on the hill, where the Gods preside in gloom on the scene.]

Christ: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Christ: Suffer little children to come unto Me.

God (angrily): Tut, tut, Carpenter. Can't you see your lotus are wanted for the satyagrahis, especially as so many names are dying down there. That sentimental stuff is all very well in the Sunday School, but the wheels of industry must be greased.

Christ: The world for Christ.

God: I am Gold, your God.

Jehovah: There shall not be any other God before or after thee.

A minister: From all pestilence, war and death.

A congregation: Good Lord, deliver us.

Mahomet: Those Christians certainly do seem busy killing one another down there.

Shiva: Aye, even as they slaughtered my millions in India.

Jehovah: I must admit the squabbles I caused are tame affairs compared to this. I thought the Carpenter taught them better ethics.

Christ: We certainly had some bloody fights in my time, but those submarines are too much for me.

A priest: God defend the right.

A nun: Let saints on earth in concert sing.

God (wearily): I am Gold, behold O synchroptans, your God.

Mars: Our historians say our people ages ago were as barbaric as the earth-men, it is to be regretted the latter will become sane and give up their foolishness.

God: I am Gold, their God, and as long as I reign they will obey me.

Monks (chanting): Glory be to God on high.

A congregation: For ever and ever, Amen.

An usher: The crowd increaseth in size and violence, your Lordship.

A bishop: May God pardon the people their sins.

God (almost inaudible): I am G-O-L-D. Behold G syn-op-ph-

[A large crowd, mostly of peasants, now surges over the palace square, branding aside the guards who are loth to interfere with them. The latter hastily reform on the main doorway, and, urged on by the general and several retainers, try to stop the multitude. The latter complains a motley crew, in which, however, hand and legged want preponderate. A new spirit seems to animate them. The timid men and frightened women that clustered in crowds during the night look determined and fierce in the dawn. They are no longer a spiritless mob, a new light is in their eyes and a new hope animates the mass, for they are the children of the revolution. Above, dawn is breaking, the dark clouds of night are fast evaporating. The ghosts of the Gods look nebulous, and shadowy in the light of the rising sun. The face of God is shrouded in fog, and only the dim outlines resembling a sovereign can be discerned. He still mutters inaudibly to his court, whose figures are dissolving rapidly in the morning mist.]

The president: The herd has turned, we must defend ourselves.

A captain: Unless the bishop intercedes for us with the people we shall all be in heaven within the hour.

A bishop: Good God, captain, can't you do something to save us?

Nuns (chanting): We hath overthrown the mighty, and hath exalted the humble and meek.

Shades of Gods: The night of ignorance is over, the dawn of reason is upon us.

Voice of the crowd, growing loud: We are the Will of Labour, we are the word of law.

Priests (in chorus): Labour, Lord Labour, remember us when thou comest into kingdom.

The president: The people are upon us, the gods and ghosts cannot help us now.

[Even as he spoke the first rays of the morning sun kissed the clouds where once the throne had been. The gods and goblins had heaved from the sky, and not a trace of the heavenly host was to be seen.]

Below a scolding mass of humans struggled on the palace stairway. There was a sound of blows, the tramp of many footsteps, the crash of breaking glass and wood, and the murmuring of the angry multitude as they forced their way into the twilight to the halls of music and mirth from which faintly could be still heard the strains of a drunken organ. There was a short sharp struggle, and a great ball of voices, but above the din could be heard the voice of the labourer saying: The Gods are overthrown, the day of the people is at hand.]

All is lost in confusion and uproar.

POLITICAL CATECHISM.

What is politics?  
A dirty scramble for office.

What is office?  
A position with little work and big pay.

What is money?  
A tool of oppression.

What is law?  
An unequal distribution of injustice.

What is a trust?  
A legalised bank of robbers.

What is a bank?  
A corporation that lives on the interest of what it owes.

What is poverty?  
Hell on earth.

What is riches?  
Accumulated plunder.

What is society?  
Good clothes, a full pocket and an empty head.

What is civilisation?  
An agreement among the rich and strong to rob the poor and weak by legislation, instead of by physical force.

What is a crank?  
A man with a new idea.

What is a politician?  
A man who has the "rice tick".

—The Fool Killer, Boomer, North Carolina, U.S.A.

The non-political propaganda of the I.W.W. during the past few years is stimulating the workers to do their own work for themselves. The absolute futility of politicians of whatever brand has become so self-evident that even a child in the kindergarten can see through the baneful snare of the money-gentry. We saw in New castle a week ago the cabled and cabled datings of the Labor Party and the orthodox trade unionists celebrating the Eight-Hours' Day. Now we see the same crowd on strike fighting for it. It is a quicker way of getting the eight hours than to bank, fighting for it, than it is gazing champagne with the local owners and work-ship.

# Our Growing Press

"DIRECT ACTION."  
English, Weekly, 4s. per year. Published by the I.W.W., 403 Sussex Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

"SOLIDARITY."  
English, Weekly, 5s. 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, 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, 5s. 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 Hollis 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, 4s. 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 Administracion, El Rebelde, No. 1279, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

"BAOCHAYA RECH."  
[The Voice of Labour]  
Russian, Weekly, 4s. per year. Bundle rates, 1d. per copy outside Chicago. Address: 1146 South Desplaines St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.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.

SYNDYCE LOCAL Meetings, 4c.  
Street Propaganda at Bathurst and Liverpool Streets every Friday and Saturday Evenings, at 8 p.m.; also Sunday Evening, at 7.

Meetings in Hall:  
Sunday, 8 p.m.—Propaganda.  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Economic Class.  
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Business Meeting.  
Saturday Evening—Speakers' Class.

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, some of the hundred and one strikes of the year, are contained within the volume.

It also includes "Crosset's" satire, "Direct Action," West's "Ballad of Marland Good," "General Strike," "Aeritation Court," and "The Interrupted Snog," as well as dozens of first-class articles and articles upon matters industrial and political.

An early application is necessary, as the supply of files is limited. There are no files of the first volumes left.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

# Spasms.

(By Tom Barker.)

Some of the anti-conscriptionists will rebuke the effect of the I.L.W.U. on the recent referendum. They consider that the charge against I.L.W.U. men have prejudiced the vote. They forget that for the past two and half years the I.L.W.U. fought conscription and militarism, while they were making Mr. Hughes on the back, even as recently as May of this year at the P.L.L. Conference.

The anti-conscriptionists in Victoria were inactive more active and powerful than those in N.S.W. and yet when the vote is cast "Yes" is carried. We can claim, I think, that the I.L.W.U. has had a greater effect on the conscription issue than the eleven-thousand evasions of anti-Hughes, who can see a misty kind of fashion, themselves gracing the scene evacuated by the conscriptional Laborites.

We hold no brief for Hughes, but the fact remains that he has been consistent as a conscriptionist, and the Laborites who have followed him blindly have no room to slaug mud. Helled in May, and deserted in September, Hughes stands as an example of the instability of the opinions of the men that behind all the gyrations of the political opportunist and job hunters, we can see a changing public opinion, that was being manufactured while Hughes, with the congratulations of his enemies of today, was dining at Buckingham Palace.

Two-leader writers on the staff of the "Evening News" refused to write certain conscriptionist matter for the paper. The heads grew sore to such extent, when the rest of the employees took a hand. Suffice to say that the "Evening News" came out all right, and the leader writers are still on the job. Solidarity is a wonderful thing to coax the boss with.

The "Grafton Examiner," with a large circulation on the North Coast line, recently reflected upon the I.L.W.U. men working on the railway construction works. A boycott was declared, which resulted in the "Examiner" being obliged to apologise. The person who wrote the article resided in a hotel there, that was also placed on the boycott list, which resulted in the article being told verbatim by the I.L.W.U. to find new quarters. The boycott is very popular with the boss. My word!

The Railway Commissioner in N.S.W. is a very decent sort. He is firing I.L.W.U. men, and turning them loose on the private employers. And the private employer is seeking them and turning them loose on the Government. We wish them both joy in the process. It will make grow I.L.W.U. grov, and get strong and heavy. And we have a message for the Railway Commissioners. Their method of using the big boss workers similar ruthlessness among the workers. If there was no Railway Commissioner, and their end there would be no I.L.W.U. And, consequently, the world would be happier and P.L.L.iah.

"W. A. Holman and his gang," says H. E. in the "Australasian Worker," "have covered themselves with disgrace, and degraded the Parliamentary institution to the level of a brothel." The keepers of the last named place ought to sue the "Worker" for slander.

The ballot box is NOT, after all, the way to the millennium. Says the "Worker," "The war may last for years. No one can put a period to it. And during the war, unless the pollsters are fooled, the betrayed and exploited people of New South Wales will have NO CONSTITUTIONAL REMEDY for the outrage perpetrated upon them."

We have again to complain about the Labor Press associating Mr. Holman's name with the ballot. It is a very dirty name, and one which accounts for his not being a member of the I.L.W.U., for when he saw that he had sold his master, he regretted it and heanged himself. Hol, Mr. Holman—

Parliament is going into recess, and the coal miners are on holiday. Funny why there should be a holiday about the latter, and such a feeling of relief about the former. Since the last month, Parliament plays in modern society, doubtless, impressions as it is, serves a useful purpose, while Parliament acts to consolidate and stultify every action of the working class to achieve things for themselves. When the miners win the eight hours, Parliament will be in favour of it and beguile it.

It is officially stated by the general secretary of the I.L.W.U. that the I.L.W.U. had placed the seedling in form of the Titanic.

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.

# Songs of the Slave

## THE RED FLAG.

(By James Connel.)

The workers' flag is deepest red,  
It shrouded oft, our martyred dead,  
And ere their limbs grew stiff and cold  
Their red blood dyed its every fold.

## Chorus.

Then raise the banner standard high,  
Beneath its folds, we'll live and die,  
Though coversd finch and traitors sneer,  
We'll keep the red flag flying here.

Look toward the Frenchman loves his blue,  
The sturdy German chants its praise;  
In Moscow's vaults, its hymns are sung,  
And Angus swells its surging song.

It waved above our infant might  
When all about seemed dark as night;  
It witnessed many a deed and vow,  
We'll not change its color now.

It suits to-day, the meek and base  
Whose minds are fed on self and place;  
To cringe beneath the rich man's frown,  
And hand that sacred emblem down.

With heads uncovered, swear we all,  
To bear its onerous burden well,  
Come dangers dark, or gallows grin,  
This song shall be our parting hymn!

## THE TRAMP.

(By J. Hill.)

(Tune: "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys are Marching.")

If you all will shut your trap,  
I will tell you some of my own  
That was broke up and shut it, too, for fair;  
He was not the kind that stirk him.

With heads uncovered, swear we all,  
To bear its onerous burden well,  
Come dangers dark, or gallows grin,  
This song shall be our parting hymn!

## Chorus.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, keep on a-marching,  
Nothing doing here for you;  
If I catch you 'round again,  
You will have me and chain.

Keep on tramping, that's the best thing you can do.  
He walked up and down the street,  
'Till the shoes fell off his feet;  
In a house he spied a lady cooking stew,  
And he said, "How do you do,  
May I chop some wood for you?"

What the lady told him made him feel so blue.  
'Cross the street a sign he read,  
'Work for Jesus," so he said,  
And he said, "Here is my chance, I'll surely  
And he knecled upon the floor,  
'Till his knees got rather sore,  
But at eating-time he heard the preacher cry—

Down the street he met a cop,  
And the copper made him get a cop.  
And he asked him, "When did you blow into town?"  
'Cons with me up to the judge."  
But the judge he said, "Judge,  
Bums that have no money needn't come around."

Finally come that happy day,  
When his wife led him to heaven when he died.  
When he reached the pearly gate,  
Satan took him, men old state,  
Slammed the gate right in his face and loudly cried:

In despair, he went to hell  
With the devil for to dwell.  
For the reason he'd got no other place to go;  
And he said, "E'en fall of me,  
For Christ's sake, let me in!"  
But the devil said, "Oh, but it, you're a 'bum'!"

## THE BOYCOTT.

The trades unions and anti-conscriptionists a few weeks ago declared a boycott on the "Sun" newspaper, for the unfair way in which it stated the anti-conscriptionists' case. The boycott has been fairly effective, but the boycotters evidently do not understand the way to get effective results. The most effective way to kill a paper is to boycott its advertisers. For the modern press depends not upon circulation, but upon its advertisers. The I.L.W.U. is going to "Mirror" readers, who include the boycotters, "Direct Action" advertisers, and the "Mirror" readers, who include the boycotters, "Direct Action" advertiser. For the "Mirror" and "Direct Action" understand one another.—T.B.

## £250 PRESS FUND.

The following valuable amounts have come in to purchase a new and modern press:  
E. Hester, £1; P. J. Eilers, 5/6; Richard Walsford, £1; Edward, £1; J. Regan, £1; total, £42/6.

# DIRECT ACTION. General Strike. Melbourne News.

## AUSTRALIAN COAL MINERS DE-CLARE GENERAL STRIKE. ENFORCEMENT OF EIGHT HOURS "BANK TO BANK." EMPLOYERS UNEASY.

After many years of celebrating annually the Eight Hours coal miners of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania have gone out on strike to gain it. New conditions and propaganda have begotten a solidarity that possesses great potentialities for the future.  
The miners have selected an opportune time for the fight. The defeat of the conscription referendum, the mixed state of both State and Federal politics, and the shortage of coal stocks, all tend to place the miners in an advantageous position.  
The miners are realising that six years of State politics, and Labor preponderance in the Federal Parliament, means nothing to the workers. They have come to the conclusion that militant and aggressive tactics alone will get results. Possibly when the next Eight Hours Day comes along, the workers will be able to celebrate something that they really possess.

The Australian coal-miner in the past has not been noted for solidarity, although there was always a hopeful craft union militancy that agured well, for the time when a better understanding became imperative among the workers.  
Under the present capitalist system, the coal miners hold an advantageous position, as long as there is general action. Society depends upon coal fuel. And the strike of 1913 proved that. The coal strike of 1913 was broken by Hindoo, Japanese and South African miners mining coal for the N.Z. master class. The Australian miners must call upon these miners to make common action.

The days of national politics of craft unions have gone. National organisations cannot cope with an internationally organised and controlled master-class industrial organisation. The form of One Big Union laid down by the Industrial Workers of the World is irrefutable from a working class standpoint. Solidarity that is a virile fighting force out of distinct and united miners in various parts of Australia, must unite all national organisations into One Big Union of the working class.

The "Eight Hours Bank to Bank," if established will mean that miners, truckers, underground and surface workers, will work eight hours only. Some of the workers have been working nine and ten hours for two times on the South Coast this precedent has been established, but these lodges, in a spirit of loyalty, are fighting in the best style to help their fellow workers to enforce this demand.

We of the Industrial Workers of the World wish the miners every success. We know that this strike will be successful. We hope that it will be the precursor of a six-hour day, that will go far further to establish ideal conditions than all the wasted years of political and indirect action, that are gone, and to come.

This fight shows the growth of the idea of "Industrial Control," the new Master class, now depends solely upon the servile co-operation of workers. When the workers throw aside the old concepts of a bygone and outworn age, a new world opens before them.  
Long live the fighting spirit, and may their spirit stimulate every worker for the great Industrial Armageddon.

TOM BARKER.

There is only one Union. The class worker in industry. There is place for every man to work. There is no room for the exploiters. Therefore, working men and women, organise today into the ONLY Union, the Industrial Workers of the World.

We had another great meeting at the Yarra Bank on Sunday, very successful both financial and educational.

The ballot box enthusiasm has died down, and the wage-fight is waiting results. Let us hope this time he will not go to sleep thinking he has done all that is needed. "External vigilance is the price of liberty." How would it be with those who feel and degrade the working class if the same energy was applied at the point of production, as is applied in belting the Boss with bits of paper with X on it? If the same energy was used in convening meetings and expounding and turning out literary productions to educate the wage-fighters by the I.W.W. One Big Union as advocated by the I.W.W., the Boss would begin laying a stick of lead skin gloves. But the old boy in '01 on the good shepherd" has got the wool pulled over the average wage-fighters' eyes. It is only sheep that want a shepherd, and back of the shepherd is the shearer. They certainly shear the worker alright.

If the worker would only cut the sheep business out, and take on the stubborn characteristics of the mule for a change and organise for a big kick, they would kick the shepherds to hell. They would not let the old ball into a shape that would make it worth living to consider, the mule is recognised as a bit! And if the workers had the sense of the mule and carry the jibbing to a fine art, or, as the I.L.W.U. tells you, "To try and give marginate work for marginate pay," they would soon be able to run the Boss out of business, and with him out of business there would be none to subsidise craft politicians, hypocritical persons, reactionary labor leaders, or any other of the shepherd breed.

The I.W.W. here in Melbourne is doing its best to demand to knock some sense into the heads of the woolly ones, with very satisfactory results. The results can be judged by the shrieks that emanate from the different day-lie workers. Our speakers are getting more applause every week. Several come to light their feet, and we are bounding in all our activities.

The authorities seem anxious about that German gold we are supposed to be getting. Gee, I haven't seen gold for years. If they can locate it we will help I will willingly go down halves. Anyhow, they are anxious to come along any time, because if they pass without giving us a call, we will think this local is not keeping its end up, and the Boss is beginning to "believe" as. Because the hostility of the master class justifies our criticism.

JAMES POPK.

## AN EFFECTIVE WEAPON.

WELLINGTON (N.Z.), Thursday. The State coal miners at Greymouth have struck on a restricted output, pending the settlement of a dispute with regard to the timbering of the working place. They are now on strike 2 1/2 days, plus a 10 per cent. war bonus.—"S.M. Herald."

## STAGNATION OF PRINCIPLES.

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

Instead of two classes a struggle must be an unit, the workers of the world organise as one class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

What that the centering 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 class unions foster a state of affairs which allows of the workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one and aid the employing class to mislead the workers into believing 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 break away with capitalism. The art of production must be created not only for the everyday 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.

Published by Tom Barker of 28 Francis St. Sydney, for the Industrial Workers of the World, 401, Sussex St., Sydney, and printed by H. Cook and Co., 201 Castlereagh St., Sydney.