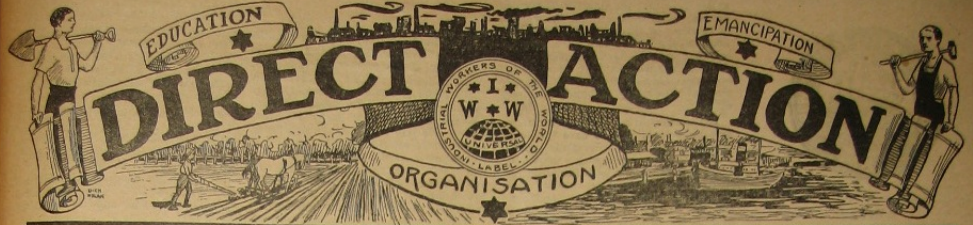


ONE UNION. ONE LABEL. ONE ENEMY.



VOL. 4., NO. 129

SYDNEY.

July 7th, 1917. ONE PENNY

Queensland Moving.

HUGHENDEN.

Bill Jackson called here on his way to Conerary, and delivered an address in Page's Hall. He dealt with the conspiracy cases at some length to the great interest of his hearers. There is no doubt that his visit has shattered the boss fostered prejudice and lies against the imprisoned men.

I and others collected £4 at an A.W.U. meeting. We also collected £4 15s at Jackson's meeting.

Some of the boys here are getting taken up with the I.W.W., and are prepared to do anything at all to help along the organisation. Yours for Solidarity,

C. HICKEY.

Hughenden.

KURIDALLA.

F. W. Jackson left Townsville for Kuridalla on Monday night, June 11th, and was advertised to speak there on the following Saturday.

To those who are not familiar with the name of Kuridalla it might be as well to mention that it was lately known by the name of Friedland, and is 630 miles west of Townsville. It is the largest mining centre of the north-western copper fields.

On arrival of the train at Hughenden, on Tuesday morning, F. W. Hickey asked Jackson to leave the train and have a talk to the strikers. A bumper meeting of strikers and shed hands was held on Wednesday night, and £3 15s was collected.

The workers of Richmond having heard that one of the I.W.W. criminals from the South had arrived in the district, they were anxious to have a look at them.

A meeting was arranged, and the audience was so satisfied with the talk of the criminal that it threw in £3 8s 7d as a collection, and wished Jackson good luck.

On arrival at Kuridalla, dodgers were got out advertising a meeting for Sunday night in the local hall. A good audience rolled up to hear Jackson, and £2 15s 1d was collected.

Jackson left for Selwyn and spoke there on Wednesday night. Great interest shown. Sales of literature and song books exceedingly good.

The camp now rounds with the strains of wobbly songs. All the musical instruments in boarding houses and pubs are going day and night, hammering away at the I.W.W. songs.

At every centre, Jackson has visited he has received a good reception, and all his meetings have been very enthusiastic. But we always remember that this enthusiasm is born of the martyrdom of the twelve working-class agitators now rotting in jail. The slaves of North Queensland have made it known that they are ready for any action and can display solidarity with some effect.

F. W. Brown will follow Jackson through the mining camps, and attend to the numerous orders for papers and literature. Already the prejudices and misunderstandings have been lifted, and the workers up here are hungry for the I.W.W. dope.

The workers at the different centres are anxious to get "Direct Action" and are very indignant about it being stopped through the post.

North Queensland holds out great hopes for the I.W.W., and before long the red card will be recognised in the mining, cane and pastoral industries.

W. JACKSON.



Unemployed.

If They Would Only Organise.

SYDNEY.

Owing to the splendid free advertisement given us by the masters' press, our propaganda meetings have been a huge success. Several new speakers have taken the stump, and have been very handing out the goods. The logic, reason, and soundness of our position is the stimulating factor in making many members take the platform. When one knows he is right, there is nothing to be afraid of.

Members and sympathisers are asked to note that when the weather is too unfavorable to hold meetings in the Domain on Sundays we will hold forth in the hall in Sussex street, where music and speeches will fill the hall.

Literature sales are booming and the sales of "Direct Action" are on the increase. Everything is looking healthy for the Organisation, and if our boys were only out of jail we would almost think the New Age was not very far off.

Many attempts have been made to try and get a larger hall for our Sunday night lectures, but we have always been turned down. That time is on our side, the future is with us, and truth supersedes us, and before long we will not get for something which rightly belongs to us, but—?

Call for Convention.

Owing to the great progress being made by the I.W.W., and the hearty endorsement of its principles by an ever increasing number of the working class, it now becomes imperative that another convention be called to map out a plan of campaign for the future. There are many things to be discussed by the different locals, and some changes made. The locals must be brought more in touch with each other, and supply headquarters with a monthly or quarterly report, and headquarters should supply locals with a report also. There is much business of an important nature to be transacted, and to do this in a proper and scientific manner a convention is necessary.

All members would do well to discuss this matter at the next business meeting, and write to the General Secretary-Treasurer their decision.

We can then elect delegates and decide upon the time and place. No time should be wasted in arriving at a decision, as the welfare of the organisation depends upon it.

I will guarantee to take from this jail, or any jail in the world, five hundred men who have been the worst criminals and law-breakers who ever got into jail, and I will go down to our lowest streets and take five hundred of the most abandoned prostitutes, and go out somewhere where there is plenty of land, and will give them a chance to make a living, and they will be as good people as the average in the community.

—CLARENCE DARROW.

"DIRECT ACTION."

English. Weekly. 4/ per year, 2/ per half year. 1d copy. 403 Sussex St., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

The I.W.W. and Dogma.

The Industrial Workers of the World Organisation is no rigid, Catholic-like belief or dogma, but such are the outcomings of present day capitalist conditions, and in accordance with the vital needs of the revolutionary working class army. The I.W.W. organisation is no mere expression of some "high-brow" theory, but the logical outcome of working-class experience. As time goes on, it may be that certain modifications will be necessitated. These should be accomplished without undue friction, because it is the teaching and aim of the I.W.W. that all power be vested in the rank and file. According to the understanding of the units of the Rebel Army shall we be able to meet the needs of circumstance and mould our organisation for the purpose of achieving its revolutionary aim. Certain organisations in the past have been more concerned in perpetuating particular dogmas than in seeking the most efficient and practical method of achieving the goal of militant endeavor. Consequently, they became mere shrillest shells of scholastic ignorance, even the refreshing waters of experience failing to vitalise them into a healthy, vigorous growth. The I.W.W. learns from past and present experience, and although at all times keeping in now its aim of working class organisation for the overthrow of capitalism, nevertheless tries to steer clear of the morass of dogma. It is a live body, and, being alive, acts. Mistakes have been made—will be made—but the greatest blunder ever perpetrated is an improvement on a silly, narrow, self-righteous, above-the-law philosophy of mastery inactivity. The capitalist system cannot be theorised out of existence, nor can it be effaced by a plentiful supply of platitudinous gifts, started by excited humanitarians in the teeth of the ogre. Neither can the system be exorcised by the metaphorical burning on the altar of economics those who fail to recite without a slip all the pan that's been dished up for our education by learned theorists since the time of Adam Smith down to the latest edition of the working-class intellectual.

By all means, however, let theorists theorise, our philosophers philosophise; but Lord-Lord preserve us from an overindulgence in the brain-storming, action-deteriorating, mental dope dished up by the superior persons.

ODE BEE.

Adelaide.

WORKERS' DEFENCE AND RESCUE COMMITTEE.

The agitation for the release of our jailed stalwarts is still going on. Larger crowds at our meetings inspired the good fruitful work. The week end and four meetings were held, and at each our speakers were listened to with the most careful attention. At the Botanic Park meeting on Wednesday afternoon was made to the bottle workers being on strike, and a call to their assistance by way of funds occupied a part of the time. A large attendance was secured in his delivery of a sound address upon matters vital concerning the welfare of the toiling masses. The collection in aid of the bottle-workers amounted to £1 10s 0d.

The coming week will be a busy one, as two indoor meetings are arranged for F. W. McGee Miller, who will arrive in Adelaide on the 19th inst. A debate between Mr. Craigie (secretary of the Single Tax League) and F. W. Miller has been fixed up for June 20th in the Trades Hall. Subject—"Will Single Tax Emancipate the Workers?" Six-penny tickets have been issued, the proceeds to go to the funds for the wives and children of our imprisoned fellow-workers.

F. T. C., Secretary.

TELEGRAM.

Mt. Cuthbert, Queensland.

Send seven hundred and fifty "Direct Actions" every week. Send £30 of literature at once. Posting £20 next week. Record meetings everywhere. Denny Foley put on as organiser.

JACKSON.

Direct Action



WEEKLY
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of the
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"Socialism at Work."

For the past few months the Queensland "Worker" has been publishing a series of articles under the heading "Socialism at Work."

It is reasonable to suppose that in such a place, the working class would at least be free from all the terrors of starvation, and exploitation would be unknown. But just the opposite is the case.

The articles in question are full of eulogistic talk, statistics are quoted, conditions mentioned, and comparisons drawn. One would almost believe that things were all rosy and bright in the northern State, but, sad to say, it is not so.

If, as the "Worker" says, Socialism is at work in Queensland, it does not speak so well for the advocates of Socialism. If the concerns mentioned are samples of "Socialism at work," then we can honestly say Let us have no more of it.

In Queensland, as in all other States, all the evils and crimes of modern capitalism exist and flourish. Just now is the busiest time of the whole year. The sugar harvest is in full swing, the meat industry is at its highest, and the water fronts are busy, not to mention the mining centers. Despite this fact, there are unemployed army tramps up and down the country looking for a master. At the present moment, despite the temporary prosperity, Queensland has its festering slums, and men committing crimes which are the direct result of poverty; women are upon the streets, children are in the factories, and strong men are on tramp. When the sugar harvest is over, and the meat works close, thousands more men will be thrown into the ranks of the unemployed, then poverty will become intensified, and thousands of women and children will experience what hunger means.

If these be the conditions in the land where Socialism is at work, then we might truly and fearlessly say: Save us from Socialism!

But let us examine a little more closely. The brand of Socialism boasted by the "Worker" is the State controlled industrialism.

One time the word Socialism told of an ideal future State, where slaves and masters were things of the past, and every man adult produced for social use and not for individual profit. But the word that once spoke of good times ahead now seems to have become commercialized, and according to the Parliamentary Socialists, means any old thing at all. These social ticket artists are prepared to distort words and pervert ideas, if only they can ride upon the backs of the working class, and power and fame.

Once a man starts meddling with politics, he loses all respect for the truth, and loses caste with the militant workers. If of no importance that they give the industrial unionist what name they please, the State system is only State Capitalism—another phase in the profit making system.

The workers in State controlled jobs

have the pleasure of being robbed by the Government, while other private employers. What other difference is there, unless it be that the slaves in State jobs are very often worse off than the workers in private establishments? The conditions on some State jobs are so bad that it is hard to find a man to mention other lands, the workers have on numerous occasions been forced to take the extreme measure of striking to better their conditions.

The workers in many State controlled jobs know what it is to have tyrannical bosses, and be under strict discipline.

If State ownership is such a good thing for the workers, and it is Socialism real, according to these people, how comes it that the international financiers who live upon interest, are prepared to lend money to start these State shops? Can anyone imagine that these financial giants are going to pay large sums of money to put themselves to work?

Even if the Government were to try the impossible and run their works without making a profit, the money-lenders and bond-holders would still demand their interest on money lent; so the workers would still be exploited and have to keep a parasite class.

It might be contended that some State industries show no profit. Precisely. But there are other Government lay-outs which show a huge profit, and they condemn the others. In all the State concerns, whether they show a profit or not, the workers are robbed of three-fourths of what they produce, and are destined to feed a useless, idle and parasite class.

Although some Parliamentary Socialists call State ownership Socialism, nevertheless, by the State buying and taking over industries the lot of the workers cannot be lightened. Such a system will not abolish poverty or eliminate the slums; it can not decrease unemployment or raise the distress.

Since the wages of the working class are based upon the needs of the necessities of life, it matters not who we work for. Since solidarity and organization determine our conditions on the job, we care by what name the boss is called. Be it stockbroker, or trust magnate, financier, or Labor Government who runs the joint, the workers will only get a subsistence wage and have those job conditions which they are able to trouble and hold.

The Social Unionist tries not to admit the many transformations of capitalism, but per medium of his industrial organization is after all he can get.

The only way to rid the world of all the social ills and festering evils is by One Big Union of the working class organized on the industrial basis.

With a sound industrial organization the working class will be in a position to bid farewell to capitalism and all its iniquities, and inaugurate an Industrial Republic with all its glories.

N.R.

As Others See Us.

In answer to the accusation that the Alaska Labor Union is responsible for the spread of I.W.W. ideas, "which are of a poisonous nature to everything that makes for the good of the people here in Anchorage," made by one of the papers there, the Alaska Labor News reports:—

"Frank P. Walsh, the chairman of the Industrial Commission, said in speaking of the I.W.W., that it was 'the most truly American institution in the United States,' and that no organization so thoroughly expressive of the spirit of the Declaration of Independence and made for the preservation of truly American principles and democracy as the Industrial Workers of the World, in the United States."

"Confusing," the News makes the statement: "We may differ with some of our I.W.W. brothers on matters of fact, but we certainly agree with them in their demand for an overthrow of capitalism, and the economic and social dominance of the working class, and the abolition of all other classes in society."

"Union that does not stand for this as its ideal is not a force and seeking to destroy, forfeiting all rights, is called a union of working men and women."

Every citizen may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, and be responsible for the abuse of that liberty. No law shall ever be passed to curtail or restrain this liberty of speech, or of the press.

—Constitution of Connecticut.

The I.W.W. does not refuse concession, but it will not back the Revolution because of them.

Millionaire Tramps.

"Mr. Edwin Brown, a Denver millionaire, has been bewailing himself by making a tour of the principal Pacific Coast cities, dressed as a tramp, in order to see if the submerged tenth ever received any human sympathy. He passed through Chicago, and was asked about his experiences. He replied: 'I found a country of condensed human suffering, where the churches are as idle as painted pictures, and where charity associations seek to avoid giving what is never possible.' Mr. Brown was asked many times as a vagrant.—"Sydney Morning Herald."

This is not the first case of a wealthy individual exploring the slums for experience. There have been many. But no matter what slights they see or what horrors thrill their being, they can never experience what it is like to be a slum dweller nor feel the agonies of the "submerged tenth." These millionaire tramps get tired of society blow-outs, and for a novelty go strutting about the slums. They then boast of knowing "how to live poor." But they lie. They do not know how the poor live. They have no idea of the struggles and battles, the heartaches and mental tortures, the fears and sighs of the struggling poor. They do not know what it is like to look hungry in the face and fight a grim life and death battle with the hideous monster of starvation. They do not know what it feels like to return home after a day's tramp in search of work, and look inside a cold miserable den and see their wife and children hugging themselves before a fireless grate and crying for food. They have never known what it is like to have their faming, nor have they children waste away from hunger. They have never seen THEIR daughter, the child of their affections, struggling with herself and making her choice between the brothel on the river's bank, and the starvation on the manhood struggle through their bodies, and with clenched fists and starting eyes swear for vengeance against the masters who are responsible. They have never known what it is like to feel like a law-breaker, and walk all nerves a single, rush out into the night, half crazy, half mad, and swear an oath that they will return with either bread or death.

No, these wealthy hoboes do not know what it feels like. They have no idea of all the while they are moving around amongst poverty and disease, their kidneys are well lined and their stomachs full. While in the midst of distress and

suffering they have the knowledge that they are economically secure. How can they feel like those who are struggling in the cesspool of capitalism?

How do they know how it feels to die of slow starvation?

In a few moments these guided investigators can call it taxi, and in a few hours be washed, well-clad, sitting in a beautiful home, surrounded by healthy, happy and rosy children, and in the midst of all the comforts of modern life. How can these individuals know what it feels like to be poor and live a lifetime in the slums?

No, Mr. Millionaire Tramp, you can keep your sympathy. We don't want it. You may have lived a few weeks amongst them but you do not know us, you cannot understand us. You might dole out a few shillings to some charity, but you will still continue your exploitation of the working class. It is the exploitation of the working class that is the cause of millionaires and paupers.

Amid the toil, and sweat, and blood, and groans of the industrial bells, a new day of unity is spreading. Amongst the toil scarred slaves of industry the idea of organization is catching on. One day the industries of the world the chain of One Big Union is stretching. Ere long the links of industrial solidarity will be welded together. United in one army, under the one banner of the working class, the toilers will realize their power. Their good-bye to millionaires and paupers, the useless and idle rich, to hovels and squalor, palaces and parasites, so long to rags and starvation and arrogant and insolent wealth.

One day of the One Big Union, the "sympathy for the poor" crowd will have to stop sympathizing and do some useful work.

The battle-scarred heroes of industry are at last beginning to think, and when once they begin to think, it is not long before they begin to act.

The sympathy, and sops, and palliatives cannot be used much longer to hold the workers in subjection in order that the ONE DECISION ENEMY, exploited.

All hail the I.W.W., the One Big Union of the working class, the new day's hope and joy, the harbinger of peace and prosperity, the forerunner of happiness and comfort for all.

Speed the day of Industrial Democracy.

N.R.

Why Strikes are Not Wanted.

Repressive measures, against workers and unions participating in strikes, are threatened to be introduced which will do this State. And the more militant unions, as according to Minister for Labor, Beeby, to have their legal right to exist as unions, taken away from them.

We hold no brief for trades unions; the fact that the said Beeby, the Ex-Labor politician does not concern us; but should any of those workers who rely on politicians to improve their (the workers) economic conditions out on their backs, and seriously ask themselves the question—why my Beeby are there in the ranks of today's Labor politicians?

However, apart from this, the reason for wanting the workers to strike is that they get on their feet, or to strike peacefully at work, in order to create wealth, so that there may be no diminution in the revenue.

The war that is being waged in Europe is maintained by the wealth that the belligerent standpoint. From the capitalist blood, wealth must, must be the life-circulation, be interfered with. This is the fact, realizing that their position depends entirely on the wealth producing capabilities of the country, will endeavor to prevent their security from being undermined.

Labor applied to natural resources is the source of all wealth, and from no other source does it come. Therefore, the authorities argue, labor must be kept contented at work, and no matter what the degree of exploitation may be, labor must not protest.

Owing to the excessive interest arising out of war loans, partly due to the needs of war loans, partly due to the needs of the functions of government, parliament must have money, and still more money. This money is exacted from the working class in the form of taxation. This money with which the capitalist pays his taxes, does not come

from the air, but from the surplus value which he has exploited from labor. The more revenue parliament needs, the heavier the taxation, and the heavier the taxation the more the tendency of the capitalist to increase exploitation.

The working class as a whole are exploited by the ONE DECISION ENEMY. Therefore, the working-class ALIEN CLASS should be organized to resist it.

From the foregoing it is deducible that authorities will do their utmost to suppress strikes and goad labor agitators. A start has been made with the unlawful associations enactment, and the declaring the wages of general strike treason. Now the authorities are about to play their third card, viz. the smashing of labor organizations. If this fails then they expect their fourth card—conscription for industrial purposes.

Three spectres are hovering over the working class of this country—unemployment, starvation, and conscription. Are the workers to resist them? No.

We have seen that the whole system of capitalist government is based upon the rule upon the labor power inherent in the working class. Therefore, it is in the sphere of economic production, distribution and exchange at the foundations of society, where the workers have common interests, the common bond of exploitation; that they must be organized, and not at the ballot box.

The I.W.W. recognizes the identity of the economic interests of the working class, and accordingly organizes them as one body, and upon that basis only. Our economic power keeps society as it is to-day.

SHIMIA HILL.

Great literature is always the record of some great struggle.—V. D. SCUDDER.

Hymn of Courage.

BY JAMES WALDO FAWCETT.

1. See old men grow tired and fall beside the path.
 2. See sweet youth bend in the storm, and take
 The sheltered road beneath, and furl our
 flags.
 And speak no more of that great day in which
 we died.
 Shall flame across the sullied sky, and
 strike
 The shekels from the broken limbs of Man.
 3. See the roses fade in girlish cheeks, and
 eyes
 Grow dull and dim that once were filled with
 fire,
 And see the old, worn kingly god marching
 proudly by
 And masters bend the race under their will and
 take
 The bread from children's mouths, and steal
 the love
 From out the souls of brothers in the strife.

But I am not cast down; my heart still cries
 for peace,
 My eyes still hold the glist of hate for tyrant
 power,
 My lips still sing the rebel song, my hands
 still
 To catch the fallen banner and go down in
 the wild
 Wrapped in its folds all crimson with our own
 shed blood
 Shed in the fearless cause of Light as war
 with Night.

Come, stand together, Brothers, for the fray!
 Take up with me the broken sword of common
 sense,
 And with me climb the steeple gable of fort-
 ressed shame,
 And plant the people's pennon on the crumbled
 tower,
 To speak to all the world of Right too long
 denied.
 Come stand together, Brothers, down is here!

—O—
 "We cannot traffic in our principles; we can
 make no compromise, no agreement with the
 ruling system. We must break with the
 ruling system and fight it to a finish."
 Wm. LEBINCHEFF.

Free Minds and Free Lips.

In all ages, the truest lovers of mankind
 have toiled to imbue their fellows with the
 spirit of open-mindedness. The cause of
 free speech numbers the most glorious martyrs
 of history. Socrates, whose name we hold
 in reverence to-day, was murdered by the
 Athenian people for seeking to lead them to
 think for themselves. Bruno in death, and
 Galileo in imprisonment, paid the penalty of
 holding true views on public opinion. Bacon
 upheld the cause of scientific research
 against unnumbered persecutions. Milton
 perceived that no error was so fatal as the
 suppression of thought, and penned his
 glorious tract, which remains to this day
 an unanswerable argument to all who,
 either from mental weakness or from tyrannical
 disposition, seeking to set bounds to
 human speculation or expression. Voltaire,
 Paine, and a host of others have followed in
 demonstrating that free minds and free lips
 are necessary, in order that men might grow
 and learn. In our own land Elijah Lovejoy
 gave his life for the principle of freedom of
 the press; and from his martyrdom was born
 the grand apostleship of Wendell Phillips in
 the cause of freedom. We stand indeed on
 holy ground, when we approach the sublime
 cause of those who, through the ages, have
 striven to secure not only for themselves, but
 for all mankind, the right of unfettered utterance
 on every theme. Well for us, if we are
 found worthy to tread in their footsteps, and
 to bear the most humble part in this great
 work.—JAMES F. MORTON.

WHAT CONSTITUTES DISLOYALTY?
 Were never settled anything, but the victor
 in a particular fight. Right and truth and
 justice make their way upward through the
 mire of vicissitudes and defeats of arms.
 Some wars have appeared to be necessary;
 others have been forced upon nations; but
 practically all of them really have been void
 of any nation to them on to the end of time or
 may be fought forward to a day when reason
 instead of might shall prevail. And if reason
 is to prevail man must not plead for it in
 our day without being called disloyal.—"The
 Public."

CLASS DISTINCTIONS.

The "Argus" of the 13th inst. lets out
 a wall between two judges of the Supreme
 Court are about to receive only have
 £2500 per annum to share between them
 selves on pensions.

Seeing that these judges have been
 drawing salaries of only £3500 per year,
 no wonder why these legal gentlemen do
 not try the business end of a pick for ex-
 position. Or perhaps they are sick for the
 peril of the broken-down old wages
 when judges— and draw 12/6 per week from
 the State to save a trouble of proper-
 old stiff.

I take it that the wage slave needs
 just as much food as a judge, and those
 of us who are above the "herd that eats,
 breeds and dies," have developed a taste
 for the intellectual life of life. So at the
 breakfast table, in the study, and at the
 shrine of the muses, the wage slave and
 the judge are as "brothers under the
 skin."

And yet we have the judges of the Ar-
 bitration Courts talking about a basic
 wage for the wage slave.

Mr. Justice Powers says: "The method
 of ascertaining the mass unit on the es-
 timated consumption of all classes from
 the Governor-General downwards, made it
 impossible to ascertain the cost of living
 of a working man and his family."

If the needs of one individual is put
 down at £10,000 per annum and the other
 just what the Court will make him take
 at the point of the pistol, it is certainly
 some job to be a Governor-General or a
 judge.

The above mentioned oracle was "sat-
 isfied that 9/ a day was necessary to en-
 able the man with a wife and three chil-
 dren to live in reasonable comfort."

Reasonable comfort! Ye gods! Then
 Governors and Judges must live very
 greatly above "reasonable comfort."

And this is what the working stiff levies
 himself for—to go before a £60 a week
 Judge and be told that his £2/14 per week
 will keep him and his family in "reason-
 able comfort."

The slaves of old fared much better
 than this. There were no fed, well car-
 ried for at all times and in all weathers,
 but the slave of to-day is in a very dif-
 ferent position.

The penalties and laws against tres-
 passing and poaching stop the worker
 from hunting for his meek; the vag-

rancy laws keep him from begging for
 food.
 workers followed their leaders into the
 Arbitration Court, where the slaves go
 upon their knees to a high salaried bench
 of the capitalist class and then get
 insulted for their pains.

The workers are rising against these
 conditions, and the following clipping
 from the Melbourne "Argus" of the 10th
 ult. is very pertinent.

Parliament, nominally invested with
 supreme power, is impotent while lam-
 pers in Geelong cripple public agencies
 and prevent the handling of wheat on
 Looking around for a way out, out
 the wharf. The wheat had reached Geelong
 along with the aid of men who worked
 lawfully and patriotically. The lumpers
 do not care for the law nor for Parlia-
 ment. They set up every man for
 a law for themselves, and seek by every
 means in their power to impose that law
 upon others. They are revolutionaries.

They set against established govern-
 ment openly and as effectively as
 though they stood on the wharves with
 fixed bayonets or loaded rifles. To them
 the verdict of the people, given in a
 constitutional manner, has no significance.
 They defy; there are wages boards, de-
 cisions which they flout. Ministers
 members of Parliament, and judges are
 disregarded as though they had no sig-
 nificance.

Even servants of that de-
 mocratic party, the Labour Party, who
 with the prosecution of the war cease
 work, and like the irremovable fac-
 tions in revolutionary Russia, seek to
 dictate terms upon which they will
 resume. The representatives of the law
 may enjoin, may denounce, and may
 threaten, but they are powerless to
 punish. The forces outside the law proceed
 on their own way. If the arbitration
 law pleases them they will themselves
 if they flout it, it displaces them.

After reading the foregoing, one
 wonders what could be done if the workers
 were organized industrially.

If the transportation industry was only
 linked up into one union the workers
 would have a power which is mightier than
 kings, and greater than armies.

But the "Argus" in the article men-
 tioned is responsible for pointing out to
 the workers the might of their numbers, so
 it is now up to Billie to turn his Bengal
 tiger loose in Collins street.

JAMES POPE.

Capitalism and Morality.

has as much meaning as principle to be a
 politician.

But what is stealing, anyway? Can it be
 defined? Capitalist lawyers define it, but
 only in such manner as to safeguard the
 interest of "Big Money, Fat and Co." If a work-
 ing man takes a bit of bread without handing
 over the counter a piece of silver—well, that's
 stealing. So says the boss. Stealing means
 taking something without giving an equal
 return. But what about when the Boss takes
 the product of other men's labor, and returns
 only the product of two hours to the laborer?
 That's not stealing, O, dear no! That is
 merely appropriating the reward for organ-
 izing ability. At least so says the boss, and
 he ought to know.

To be candid, stealing is only stealing when
 it endangers the capitalist rule.

"Thou shalt not steal" is another moral
 injunction to be taken in a manner to suit the
 interests of the ruling class.
 "Thou shalt not bear false witness against
 thy neighbors." The application of this is
 universal (?) except when it means allowing
 agitators to roam the country at will; this
 thing being highly moral, righteous and
 just.

"Thou shalt not commit adultery," but if
 war babies are in big demand—well—except
 thy Big Money and his circle may think
 otherwise, for years the capitalist class have
 laughed through their paid teachers those ideas
 that have helped to keep you in subjection.
 Why Big Money and his circle may think
 their own interests is morally bad from the
 standpoint of the boss.

In future, we of the working class, must
 instill in morality to serve our own class in-
 terest. That action which will strengthen
 our organization, increase our class-conscious-
 ness for us is good and moral, no matter
 why Big Money and his circle may think
 about it, and any action that tends to weak-
 en our positions as a class is for us highly
 immoral, and must be tabooed.

OFFICE

Oh! Slaves of Labor!

O, slaves of these laborious years,
 O, freedom of the yards to be,
 Shut off your blind and stifles fears,
 And halt the train that makes you free;
 Arise from sleep; the night is going;
 Across the world the day is breaking,
 And whosoever slumbers on
 Will suffer soon a rude awaking.

O, think of those who bravely bore,
 Through persecution, death and shame,
 The flag of freedom on before
 That you that heritage might claim!
 What is a dream for which they died?
 Lo! Its fulfilment we inherit!
 Nor need we mourn that they are dead,
 If who live can breathe their spirit.

Yet, patience, brothers! If the power
 Of tyrants tread you down to-day,
 Be sober in your triumphal hour,
 To your a nobler part than they!
 To your oppressors comes at length
 The dreaded day of retribution.
 Deal wisely, therefore, with your strength,
 O, giants of the Revolution.

Free Speech.

Make no laws whatever concerning speech,
 and speech will be free, as you make
 a declaration on paper that speech shall
 be free, you will have a hundred lawyers
 proving that "freedom does not mean abuse,
 or liberty license"; and they will define and
 define freedom out of existence. Let the
 guarantee of free speech be in every man's
 determination to use it, and we shall have
 no need of paper declarations. On the other
 hand, so long as the law makes it possible
 to exercise their freedom, those who wish
 to tyrannize will do so; for tyrants are active
 and ardent, and will devote themselves in
 the name of any number of gods, religious
 and otherwise, to put shackles upon sleeping
 men.

—VOLTARINE DE CLEYRE.

Every attempt to gain free expression of
 thought is an unusual act, a crime against
 society. That is why judges and juries who
 try to enforce their law make themselves
 ridiculous. It is very hard for the robber to
 convince his victims that he is setting in their
 behalf and for their good. Is there no paral-
 lel between the gap of the burglar and the
 gap of the law? Why does the burglar use
 the knife and the law use the law?
 the gas? It is because he wants to get away
 with your goods, and he does not want you
 to make an outcry and call the neighbors.
 He knows that he cannot convince you by
 argument, so he is entitled to the goods
 and that it is really in your best interest to
 pass them over to him. Capitalism holds up
 the fella; it robs them of the result of their
 labor, and it is enjoying life to the fullest on
 the result of its plans to deprive of its special privilege;
 therefore it puts the gas of the law in the
 mouth of anyone who attempts to make an
 outcry.

JAY FOX.

WE COME.

Tremble before your chieftains, lords of the
 scheme of things!
 Fighters of all earth's battles ours is the
 right of kings!
 Guided by seers and seages, the world's heart
 beat for a drum,
 Snapping the chains of ages, out of the night
 we came!
 We are the workers and makers! We are no
 longer dumb!
 Tremble, O Shirkers and Takers! Sweeping
 earth—we come!
 Ranked in the world-wide dawn marching
 into the day!
 The night is gone, the sword is drawn, and
 the scabbard is thrown away!

—JOHN O. NEIHARDT.

THE WHOLE SECRET.

The man who had made a huge fortune
 was speaking a few words to a number of
 students at a business class. Of course, the
 student of his address, was himself.
 "All my success in life, all my tremendous
 financial prestige," he said proudly, "I owe to
 one thing alone—luck, plain luck."
 He made an impressive pause here but the
 effect was ruined by one student, who asked
 impressively:

"Yes, sir; but how were it to end the right
 people to luck?"

I. W. W. IN AMERICA. Work and Wages.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

May, 1917.

With the acquittal of Fellow Worker Thomas Tracy, and the final release of seventy-two other members who were held in gaol at Everett, Washington, the Everett prisoners' defence is now a matter of history, with the exception of Fellow Workers Edith Frenette and James Johnson, who are still held in trial and gaol. If the defence and protection of innocent members can be proclaimed a victory, then a remarkable victory has been achieved in the courts of Seattle, Washington. The class line was clearly drawn in this battle. The Lumber Trust, Merchants and Manufacturers' Associations, Commercial Clubs and Chambers of Commerce, not only of the State of Washington, but of the entire Pacific Coast, hired prosecutors, perjured witnesses and detectives from distant cities. On our side, Thomas Tracy, the working man, supported by the Industrial Workers of the World, of which he was a member, "Not Guilty" was the verdict rendered in the case of Thomas Tracy, but someone is guilty for the murders that occurred at Everett. Five, and perhaps more, members of the I. W. W. are on their death, and many are seriously wounded. Herbert Mahler, secretary of the Everett Prisoners Defence Committee, writes that Fellow Worker Joe Ghilezan has to be taken back to the hospital for a second operation to extract a bullet from his leg.

In summing up, this is what the exploiters of Labor are to account for. The murder of men who were guilty of nothing except trying to improve the conditions of their class; the maiming and killing of others; the long imprisonment of many innocent persons; cruelties which would have been resorted to only by Apache Indians. These indignities and outrages will never be forgotten. Organize, to strip the exploiters of their arrogance and power. This will be done only when the working class is in control of the industries.

The Everett Prisoners' Defence Committee have conducted the work in hand in a most commendable way, which will be appreciated by the entire organization. A report of the receipts and disbursements will be published and sent out from Seattle at an early date.

Metal Mine Workers Industrial Union, 40th in conference at Virginia, Minnesota, adopted the following by-laws: "Section 1, in case of strike on any range of the mining industry that Industrial Union 490 has jurisdiction over, shall be under control of the membership of the respective union, and no organizer shall be allowed to have a vote in any matter pertaining to the strike. A strike committee shall be elected immediately after the strike is declared, and, if possible, all members shall be in good standing in the I. W. W. Section 2, Defence Committee shall consist only of members of Industrial Union No. 490, and no organizer shall have a vote or vote in its affairs except through the general secretary-treasurer of the I. W. W."

Had a similar by-law been in effect at the time of the Colorado Hange strike, it is possible that our 3 fellow workers would not be in the Minnesota penitentiary at this time.

I have received the following telegram from Tom Mooney: "San Francisco again outrages justice. Rena Mooney trial started to-day. Criminal soundraels, Fickert, Cunnah stark, prosecuting innocent woman and defending perjured Oxana. Take warning. More underworld perjury jury bribing will take place to save their political social standing. Chamber Commerce solidly behind prosecutions. Railroad conspiracy against labor. Fair trial impossible under these circumstances. Monster demonstrations protest meetings should be held immediately. Exert best efforts to prevent further prosecutions our case by these criminal New trials for myself not undecided in spite of glaring perjury exposure. There is real danger ahead for defence. Enlarge editte telegram. Give same widest possible publicity. To which I sent the following reply: "Your message will go to I. W. W. press, all languages. Thousands of delegates will convey the words to the working class. Your splendid efforts for labor are not forgotten. Perjury and bribery cannot convict you in our estimation. Be of good spirits. Yourself, Rena and others will be liberated. Have sent some money. Will send more."

H. L. Varney and Mammel Ray, organizers for I. W. W. No. 200 with forty other members, were arrested while holding a peaceable meeting at 152 Main street, Buffalo, New York. All but ten have been released. These are not serious cases, but your attention is called to them because there is no telling what may develop at Erie.

The strike of the Log Drivers in Idaho and Montana is still on. Send funds to James Rowan, 424 Lindelle Blvd, Spokane, Wash.

Membership book, General Number 171162 is lost. Finder will please return to this office.

Joe Fox, a member of 575-2, has been expelled. Found guilty of being a labor spy and detective.

Geo. B. Stone, a member of 574, has been expelled. Charges, disruption of meetings of Industrial Unions are notified that every new member is entitled to a six months' subscription to any I. W. W. paper that he may select.

After June 1st direct all communications to R. M. T. Headquarters to 1001 West Madison street, Chicago. West best wishes, I am Yours for Industrial Freedom, WM. D. HAYWOOD, Gen. Sec. Treas. I. W. W.

BYDNEY LOCAL No. 2 408 SUSSEX STREET, CITY. ACTIVITIES - MONDAY, 7.30 p.m., SINGING CLASS. TUESDAY, 8 p.m., SPEAKERS' CLASS. WEDNESDAY, 8 p.m., BUSINESS MEETING. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY - PROPAGANDA MEETINGS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF CITY. SUNDAY, 10.30 a.m. ECONOMIC CLASSES. SUNDAY, 8 p.m. - PROPAGANDA MEETING IN DOMAIN. SUNDAY, 7 p.m. - PROPAGANDA MEETINGS BATHURST STREET AND OTHER PARTS OF THE CITY. SUNDAY, 8 p.m. LECTURE IN HALL. BEST WORKING-CLASS LIBRARY IN SYDNEY. ALL SLAVES WELCOME. BOSS NOT ADMITTED. TOM BARKER, Sec. Treas.

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SOCIAL AND DANCE IN SOUTHERN CROSS HALL, FRIDAY, JULY 19th, 1917. In Aid of Dependents of I. W. W. Men. Now in Prison. Tickets 1/ Good Music. RELEASE AND DEFENCE COMMITTEE INCOME STATEMENT WEEK ENDING JUNE 27th. Cousin Jack £ 4 s d Mrs. Pearson, Per Sulphur 1 0 0 Woman's Committee 1 0 0

(To the Editor).

In "Direct Action," of June 23rd, John Rawstrong says: "I wish to open up a discussion on the theory, that an increase in wages is, or is not beneficial to our class." In the previous issue I forwarded two cases why the price of commodities went up in the last few years. Firstly, owing to the decrease in the value of gold, owing to new methods being used in its production. Secondly, owing to the big demand temporarily for commodities on account of the war.

The prices of commodities going up forced the workers to demand an increase in wages, and to that extent it is beneficial to them. In answer to this Mr. Rawstrong said: "I do not believe that we as a class benefit by an increase in wages."

In the face of this argument, allow me to ask three questions. First, are the two theories outlined in my article wrong? Second, if wrong, explain why prices went up in the last few years. Third, explain how the workers would be just as well off by receiving £2 8s after the cost of living went up to £3 2s 6d.

John Rawstrong says: "I claim that Marx does not give us a sound economic premise, that commodities are produced in quantities." (Variable, I take it, and not fixed). The above is taken from "Value, Price and Profit," which by the way, is not an elaborate analysis of the process of capitalist production, but a critique of certain arguments put forward by Clifton Weston.

The opening remarks of Marx are: "Clifton Weston's argument rested, in fact, upon two of the premises of capitalist production, namely, that national production is a fixed thing, a constant quantity or magnitude." In answer Marx said: "Now, his first assertion is evidently erroneous. Year after year you will find that the value and mass of production increase."

This within itself should be sufficient to put Weston out of court. But Marx, anxious to consider his problem from every angle, goes on to state that the amount of national production is to be constant instead of variable. Even then, what our friend Weston cannot see a logical conclusion would still remain a gratuitous assertion. If we have a fixed amount of national production, the limits of this number do not prevent its parts from changing their relative limits. If profits were six and wages two, wages might increase to six and profits decrease to two, and still the fixed amount would still remain eight. Thus, the fixed amount of production would by no means prove the fixed amount of wages. How then does our friend Weston prove this fixity? By asserting it.

For Marx is again upon one of those rambles of his, which, strange to say, all Marx's critics find out when he (Marx) tells us that he is not. Rawstrong is no exception to the usual, for his evidence has had the ingenuity to find out that the amount of production is not fixed as stated by Clifton Weston, but that it is variable, after Marx told Clifton Weston that the idea was an "assertion."

"Suppose now that the workers demand an increase in wages. . . . The medium of exchange being the connecting links (between two) and since the value is to be raised to any magnitude and still the relative value remain the same."

How and why is the medium of exchange raised? You do not prove it from your statement, but rather prove that the prices of commodities have gone up 100 per cent. and the medium of exchange has remained constant.

"If the workers were to demand two pounds instead of one, the capitalists would then raise his price to two." To follow this argument to its logical conclusion, the ups and downs of the prices of commodities are accounted for by the ups and downs of the wages paid to the working class. This being so, would Mr. Rawstrong please explain how it was possible in England for the years 1849 to 1859 for the agricultural workers to receive a rise in wages equal to 40 per cent., and wheat, the principal agricultural product of England, to drop from £3 per ton years 1828 to 1848; to £2 10s for the years 1849 to 1857?

If the raising of the price of commodities depends upon the value of the metals, why, we ask, does the capitalist fight against a rise in wages? Why do the bosses send thousands of pounds in the Arbitration Courts to stop wages down? When the workers do so for a 1s a day rise in wages why does the boss not say: "Here, my men, take a £1 rise and don't come worrying me again for a few years?" If you can't get it out of the price commodities can be risen by the boss because wages have gone up, what is there to stop him from rising the price of commodities before the workers get a rise in wages is followed by a rise in the prices of commodities, then would a fall in wages be followed by a fall in the prices of commodities? (To be continued).

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES. The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and war 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 organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the means of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the increasing 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 of the objects of the union movement, 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.

The conditions can be changed and the interests of the working class upheld only by the organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lock-out is in operation, thereby making it thus making an injury to one an injury to all. Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary slogan of "An end to the wage system!"

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

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