

'An injury to One an INJURY to All.'



VOL. 4., NO. 113 Registered at the General Post-office, Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper. SYDNEY, March 17th, 1917. ONE PENNY.

Attack on Free Speech.

LITHGOW MAKING HISTORY.

One is astounded on coming to Lithgow to find that the privilege of free speech, which has been accorded to practically every other faction in Australia, has been denied the Industrial Workers of the World, and it is as plain as daylight that the old struggle for free speech will have to be fought again before the necessities of capitalism will see the futility of trying to keep back the advancing working class with the bludgeon and the gun. On Friday night I had been speaking at the corner faced by the Trades Hall Council from the Railway Department for about twenty minutes, when about six policemen came along to tell me that I was trespassing, and could not speak there. I told them that permission had been granted as by the minutes of the Trades Hall, who leased the corner, and persisted in speaking, with the result that I was arrested and marched off to the police station, where I was charged with "criticising trespassing on railway property." There was to be a discussion in the charge room at the police station, and it was plainly visible to me that instructions had been issued to the effect that the propagandists of the I.W.W. must be stopped any way and every way. I had to appear next Tuesday, the 13th of March, to answer the charge. The crowd showed their disgust to the brand of "British Justice" handed out to me by following three hundred strong to the police station, and fifty dirty drabs could have been found to put up the bail of forty pounds that was put on my head. Some value as I.W.W.'s. Saturday night saw ex-Senator Rae hustled by the police, but eventually allowed to speak off a box 20 yards from the main street. Realising that the same right would be accorded us, P.W.'s Lynn and Swift opened a meeting 20 yards from Main street in Bank street on Sunday evening, as the voters were in possession of Cook street, where Mr. Rae had spoken on the previous evening. I had spoken three or four minutes when the police moved me on, and told me that I could not speak there. The large crowd followed me to a vacant block near the Trades Hall, where, after an extensive hearing, good sales of literature, and a good collection was made. Things appear to be getting lively in Lithgow, and verily the philosopher was right when he said, "The man who is deprived will not relax until it is broken." It is up to the workers of Lithgow to do their bit to break the jaw. On last Tuesday I appeared before the "bench," and was hauled out one month later with the alternative of a five year term for failing to seek in Lithgow.

R. J. FARRELL.

APPEAL FAILS.

JUDGES REFUSE TO SCAB.

Men Sent Back to Durance Vile.

On Friday, March 9th, the 12 working class agitators once again heard their doom pronounced through the Law Courts.

Once again have the workers appealed to the Courts in vain. Once again has a lesson been taught as to the justice of the Law.

The judgment of the Court was delivered by Mr. Justice Gordon, who was supported by Sir Wm. Cullen, C.J., and Mr. Justice Sly.

The three judges refused to scab upon their fellow-worker, Mr. Pring.

The Appeal Court upheld the verdict of Pring in all save two, when in the overwhelming benevolence of the three judges the sentences of Glynn and McPherson from 15 years to 10. The sentences as they stand at present are Reve, 10 years; Glynn, 10 years; Larkin, 10 years; Hamilton, 15 years; Beant, 10 years; Moore, 10 years; McPherson, 10 years; Teen, 15 years; Beatty, 15 years; Fagan, 15 years; Grant, 15 years; King, 5 years.

The question now rests with the working class whether they are going to allow these champions of their liberties to rot in the capitalist jails. Will the voice of the working class be raised on this matter, or will they allow this awful stain to remain upon their records that they refused to speak in defence of their tireless agitators and battlers for freedom?

For the sake of all that Labor and Democracy hold dear, those 12 men cannot be allowed to remain where they are.

Fellow Workers, let us hear from you. Your mates in jail are waiting. Will you help to set them free?

Further Appeal Condemned by the Imprisoned Men

Had Enough of

BARRISTERS AND COURTS.

The views of the men upon a further appeal are as follows:—

GLYNN—As far as I am concerned a further appeal is no good. Drop the Court.

McPHERSON—I don't expect to get justice from the Courts. Useless to take the case any further.

MOORE—I am quite satisfied now to get away to Bathurst. I have had enough of the Courts to satisfy me.

BESANT—A further appeal would be useless. Spend the money in some other way. Use it for organising work.

GRANT—Don't think about any more Courts for me. Had quite enough. Give the money to the poor. You would do no good.

FAGAN—No, no, no. No more Courts for me. Waste of time and waste of money.

TEEN—Further appeal would be useless. We have given them a good try. It is only a waste of money. Better to spend it in literature.

LARKIN—There might be a chance, but very little. I think it would cost

too much. I still have hopes that my class will not forget us.

KING—Absolutely useless to go any further. Terrible waste of money. I did not go too much on having the last appeal.

HAMILTON—Don't be mad and waste any more money on barristers. Let the idea of a further appeal drop. It will only be good money wasted.

REVES—I was against the last appeal. As for me, you can drop all idea of another try in the Courts.

The UNANIMOUS decision of the 12 men is, that a further appeal would be FRUITLESS and a TERRIBLE WASTE OF MONEY. They are now prepared to leave their destiny in the hands of the class to which they belong. They are now prepared to TRUST THE MEN AND WOMEN they have worked with and fought for, for so many years. It is only the working class—THEIR CLASS—that can understand the wrongs they suffer and know the agonies they endure.

We CANNOT AFFORD to allow these champions of working class liberties to languish in silence. It would be an IN-

Dr. Maloney Speaks Out.

For the second time in two months Dr. Maloney has been unable to find a quorum of members of the House of Representatives, and the House has been adjourned when he desired to address it. On Wednesday, 14th inst., Dr. Maloney took his seat with the intention of talking on the motion that the House should adjourn, but only half a dozen members were in the Chamber to hear him, and the most violent ringing of the bells could not attract a quorum. Dr. Maloney then addressed the public in the galleries, when he said:—

"I want you men and women to understand this fool game they call Parliament. The members are paid £12 a week, and the Prime Minister gets £48 a week, to do the business of the country. Where are they? Where is the House? Where is the people who pay for all this? Go outside and tell your friends what sort of a game is carried on here. You are all simpletons; you have not a voice."

The Deputy Speaker (Order Order): Dr. Maloney: I want you to name me, sir. I want to be named. (To the gallery): If you had the recall you could drag these men off that bench. You could make them go out and face the electors.

At this stage the Prime Minister entered the House, and took a seat on one of the Opposition cross benches.

Dr. Maloney (addressing Mr. Hughes and the interested public who were being moved out): "Here is this man looking at me. That is the Prime Minister. Here he is, smoking and polluting the atmosphere. He is the creature you have got to pay. (To the gallery): 'Don't forget that, boys. Tell it wherever you go. That is the creature that is called Prime Minister.'—'LABOR CALL.'"

The question is sometimes asked, "If Jesus were alive to-day where would he be found?" It is no hippy that dictates the answer, "IN GAOL." After nineteen centuries in which the world has worshipped the conventional Christ, it has to be confessed that our society has NO OTHER PLACE FOR JESUS.

Rev. F. Sinclair, Melbourne.

The Creator, after making the world out of the formless void, is reported to have pronounced it "good." He ought to have a look at it now.

DELIBERATE CRIME to say that we had forgotten the men who dared to speak out boldly in the north of the country. Let us bow our heads in COWARDICE AND SHAME for ever, and a day if we now refuse to help those who helped us.

The FEARLESS SPOKESMEN of the great Proletarian Army must not die in a common felons' prison. If this thing is allowed to continue, WHERE WILL IT END?

It is up to the working class to stand together and let their voice be heard on this GREAT INJUSTICE. Let us get together and VINDICATE THE PRINCIPLES AND IDEALS these men so ably fought.

Fellow workers, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? Are you your answer? Let us hear from you.

"Though the heel of the strong oppressor may grind the weak to the dust.

And the voice of the weak with one acclaim, May call his great and just,

Let those who applaud take warning, And keep the motto in sight—

No question but the motto is: 'Till it is settled right."

The result of the Appeal on behalf of the 12 imprisoned I.W.W. men came as a great surprise to some people, but most members of the I.W.W. were prepared for the worst, and expressed surprise that the Court even went so far as it did in reducing the sentences of Glynn and McPherson from 15 years to 10 years.

The barristers are anxious for a FURTHER APPEAL THROUGH THE COURTS, and some members have expressed the same wish.

The Defence and Release Committee held a meeting last Saturday morning, and decided that it would be USELESS to carry the case any further through the courts, but before determining upon any action, the Committee decided to see the men, and get their opinion upon a further appeal.

A special permit was got from the Superintendent of Prisons, and three members of the Committee visited Long Bay last Saturday afternoon and saw the 12 prisoners.

We were not allowed to see the men collectively, so we saw them individually, one after the other.

Direct Action



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.W.W. (Australia):
403 SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

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

THE REAL GOVERNMENT.

For the next few weeks, the people of Australia will have their ear drums tested by the loud howlings of a heterogeneous collection of beings scrambling for a position at the parliamentary pie counter.

Seven or eight different brands of law-makers are taking part in the present mix-up.

Nostrums of all shades and colours, are being handed out to the general public. Hope of all descriptions is being peddled. Each and every "saver" claims to have the real goods.

What with all this wind and noise, skite and bombast, hate and abuse, insinuations and personalities, one would think that these aspiring legislators really thought more about saving the Empire than place and pay, and that serving the people was placed before personal aggrandisement and comfort. But is it so? Experience answers "No!"

The disgraceful scramble for a place at the pie-counter which is now on in all its fury, is an AWFUL EXPOSURE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICIANS.

The recent postage on the mail boxes has added to the "Snell" which surrounds all politicians.

Every day that goes by more and more people are beginning to WAKE UP TO THIS HOPE PARLIAMENTARY JOKE.

One time, the things which are now done in the House, would have been looked upon as criminal acts, and the perpetrators made to answer for their deeds, but to-day in the nineteenth hundred and seventh year of our Lord, it is looked upon as "POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY."

The politician will say anything or deny anything so long as he can hold on to his seat!

While all this verbiage is being poured out upon the heads of patient and suffering people it is well for the working class to remember that INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION IS FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY PARLIAMENT.

Be not carried away by the eloquence, flattery, jokes, or glorious promises of any politician.

All political parties which first launched out were radical and made great promises, but as they began to get into office they became respectable, and when they got into power they became conservative.

It is not always to the politician's liking that he does certain things, but it is his constituents demand certain things, and they must be done.

It was upon a time—in the early history of the capitalist system—the politician really did have a chance to speak honestly and help to pass laws unclouded by special influences. But that day is no more.

In all capitalist countries in the world today the politician is only a mere puppet and a tool controlled by a power far greater than the voting public.

The coming into being of the huge trusts and conditions of the huge corporations and industries, has marked a

new era in capitalism and ESTABLISHED A NEW GOVERNMENT.

Behind all legislative bills to-day sits the REAL GOVERNMENT—the industrial oligarchy, better known as the INDUSTRIAL PLUTOCRACY.

It is this Industrial Plutocracy—the real Government—which wars and disputes to Parliament.

The only time the Parliament will legislate for the workers is when the workers have a powerful industrial organisation which can enforce their demands.

The workers to-day are not fighting any particular set of politicians, but are in a bitter struggle with the real Government—the industrial magnates.

It is this for the toilers must face, and the battle ground is the INDUSTRIAL FIELD.

The working class can possess a mighty weapon if they wish. It can defeat all governments, all principalities, all powers.

With the weapon of INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM the working class ALL POWERFUL. The only union of the working class we need not worry what particular twisting dead-beat of a politician is going to get a place at the pie counter.

The union hall will be where the laws are passed and on the job is where they will be enforced. The workers will be their own law-makers and their united voice will say what shall be.

The I.W.W. is the only scientific organisation of the working class. Join it and work for it. It is the only way out. It is superior to all parliaments. It is the track that leads to final emancipation. —N.R.

COOMBS' CASE

Jury Disagree.

W. H. Coombs, who was arrested in Broken Hill on November 26th and charged with inciting to arson, was tried in Albany last week.

The authorities, being afraid that Broken Hill jury would not convict Coombs, changed the venue of trial to Albany, where they believed that a cocky jury would be prejudiced against an agitator and bring a verdict of "guilty."

The evidence was so strong on the one side, and so weak on the side of the Crown that even the cocky jury could not disagree.

Information has been received that Coombs is now going to be carted off to Deniliquin to stand another trial before a cocky jury. In the event of this jury disagreeing we have not the slightest doubt that Coombs will be given another country tour to some staunch conservative hamlet where a conviction will be almost a foregone conclusion. But if weight of evidence counts for anything, Bill Coombs will soon be amongst us again carrying on the fight for freedom.

Aftermath of Everett Fight.

A lawyer, who recently resigned from the Commercial Club of Everett, has issued a challenge to debate publicly with any advocate of the open shop, in which debate he would affirm that the Commercial Club and not the I.W.W. is directly responsible for the death of November first.

An Everett newspaper gives the names of over one hundred members of the Commercial Club who have resigned rather than participate in open thuggery. Many of these business men are no longer signing the press that they Everett's organised slaughterhouse of Industrial Workers.

The above is a totally different story to the one told by the daily press of Australia.

The I.W.W. was pictured in the Everett affair as everything that was bad and hideous.

We now have it coming from official commercial quarters that the massacre of working people on November 5th at Everett was organised by the Commercial Club.

The heads of this large commercial outfit of the town have gone their hardest when members advertising through the press that they had nothing to do with the slaughter of innocent lives.

We are waiting to see the daily press of Australia make this correction, and deny the lies they published about the I.W.W. at Everett.

THE Life of the Wage Slave.

(By W. Jackson).

It is just about every the working class of this and every other country under capitalism rose against this system of exploitation which makes few men wealthy and affluent and the great majority it enslaves, brutalises and degrades. We of the working class, in order to live, are obliged to work, and it is not so much our antagonism in this direction, it is the fact that we are robbed of the product of our labor.

The working class produce all wealth and receive only 1-5th and the master class who perform no useful function receive 4-5ths of the wealth we produce. Seems strange. Something wrong somewhere. Surely it is contemptible enough for us, obliged to slave, grind, toil and sweat out our very existence for the aggrandisement of a few well-fed loafers. But there is a sense of insecurity that exists, that makes a dog's life of it at the best, and that is the fear of losing "our jobs." We wake up on Monday morning, the shrieking cymbal of capitalism behind them to start work. The workers, in the factories, mills, workshops, and mines convert themselves into "human oxen," and toil till 12 noon, then the proverbial hooper blows forth. The slaves feed, and recuperate for an hour. At 1 p.m. the wheels begin to fly round again, and the workers return to slavery for the rest of the day. A mad rush takes place about 5 or 5:30 p.m. in the direction of the "outside." The cities are full of "little tenements." Hessian shafts and gutters hovel the workers are pleased to call homes. They further lubricate at 6 p.m. During the evening they throw their exhausted bodies on mattresses of straw in order to recuperate. They are enabled to return to slavery the following day. The same mechanical procedure is gone through each day during the week until Saturday at 1 p.m. when the dear old boss, "Oll of parliament and benevolence" turns out his worn out human draught horses, the same as the brewer will turn out his Clydesdales till Monday morning.

This fiasco is gone through each week, month, year and in year out. The working class comprise 83 per cent. of the population, most of them are unorganised and stupid to spend their lifetime working for the capitalist class, who comprise of only 17 per cent. of the population. "Oll of parliament and benevolence" has the legal power to take over to themselves as their inalienable property. They to enjoy, hoard and squander, burn and rot in the ocean, if their fancy so dictates. The immense produce by us workers, as human as we are, with the same born capacity for eating, drinking, breathing, sleeping and dying. Many of us workers have a better digestive apparatus, and we are obliged, to put up with inferior food, and at times no food at all. They can eat no more than three meals a day, but their daily incomes are thousands upon thousands each of them with ten times as much as we have. In the vast wealth of capitalism we are compelled to work for wages, which, in the large number of cases, are totally inadequate to cover our existence. Large numbers of workers are obliged to herd in foul tenements or ill dwelling, the inducements of which is the rent, a little cheaper than the rent of a hotel. If you will investigate and observe them homes after their day's work you will learn the conditions. Their food is encircled, and is the cheapest form of meat; the morning meal is made up of a plate of porridge and a chink of

bread washed down with adulterated stuff with just a faint odor of real tea. At noon breakfast with slices of cheap cheese often composed their dinner with perhaps a dash of dessert in the shape of a sweetened substance, artificially colored and sold as cake. For supper, cheap meat or a soup bone garnished occasionally, in the season, by stale vegetables and accompanied by a concoction resembling tea. It is now we come to a sinister result of the methods of exploiting wage-working girls and women. We charge the capitalist class employing their workers, such desperately low wages as to drive large numbers of girls and women by the terrifying force of poverty into the alternate of prostitution. Official investigations have proved into many instances of capitalist fraud, but shops, stores, factories, workshops and mills have been exceptions. Why this partiality? Because the workers are never allowed to get agitated over the methods and practices of the capitalist class. Hence the politicians are neither forced for the sake of appearance to investigate, nor can they make political capital from a thing over which the public are not aroused. Not a line of the horrors taking place in department stores is ever reported in the newspapers, not a mention of the treatment of girls and women. Wherefore this silence. Because uneducated reader, these department stores are the largest and steadiest advertisers. The newspapers, which solemnly state themselves up as the moral, ethical and political instructors to the public, fill all the space desired to advertise goods, many of which are fraudulent in many instances, not a line objectionable to these department stores ever gets into newspapers print; on the contrary, the owners of these stores, by the bludgeon of their immense advertising, have the power within certain limitations of virtually act over their pretensions, make no attempt to antagonise the power. From so large a portion of their revenue comes it is a standing rule in newspaper offices in the cities, that not a specific mention of any unfavorable interests of their occurring or affecting the interests of the proprietors of those stores is allowed to get into print. Thus it is the workers are abominably kept in ignorance of the capitalist. When you go through the main thoroughfares, alleys and byways of our cities you will clearly understand the cause of the wretched conditions of prostitution is "condemned" this system of capitalism brutalises, degrades and starves the workers and forces women into the streets to sell their bodies in order to get the wherewithal to live.

The I.W.W. is an organisation composed of wage workers who are out to overthrow this system of capitalism which does slavery within itself the forces that produce slavery within prostitution, and will substitute in place of this system of industrialism whereby each working man and working woman will enjoy the full fruits of their own labor, where each shall work for his own good. This can only be attained through a large organisation, by the working class organising into the Big Union on the lines you, fellow workers, to the I.W.W. and help in this great fight of the I.W.W. to educate and to do your fair share help them to educate and organise your class and industry in society, and not just their slavery with its baneful influence ever abolished. Will you help us in this fight!

THE SOCIAL.

A very pleasurable evening was the outcome of this week's dance organised by the Women's Committee which took place last week.

For four hours the Southern Cross hall was the scene of merriment and conviviality. But the boys in jail were not forgotten, and at 10.15 a collection of 30 minutes was delivered which resulted in a substantial collection. Several musical items were rendered which were highly appreciated. Besides having a very fine "New score guide were netted for the Defence Fund."

By Order-in-Council granted the importation of the following publications are prohibited into New Zealand: "Atlanta American," "Atlanta Georgian," "Boston American," "Chicago American," "Chicago Examiner," "Los Angeles Herald," "Morning Worker," "New York Herald," "New York Deutsche Journal," "New York Evening Journal," "San Francisco Examiner," "San Francisco Sunday American," "Sunday Morning Post," "San Francisco Examiner," "Good Housekeeping Magazine," "Harper's Bazaar," "Hearst's Magazine," "The Magazine," "Motor Boat Magazine," "Motor Boat," "Industrial Worker," "International Socialist Review," (Austrian) "Workers Magazine," "Direct Action," "Los Angeles Examiner."

Spasms

By Tom Barker.

I have landed in Mount Morgan. The prettiest place in Mount Morgan is the cemetery. Mount Morgan has the advantage of Broken Hill. The subject of the I.L.W. is in fact, the next worst is the cemetery. When the Mount Morgan wealth producer has had his last breath coiled into dividends, they plant him with much ceremony. The next worst sight of the most unsightly dump that I ever saw in my life. And Pat only makes about three-quarters a million a year out of the hides and muscle and sweat of the wage workers in that town. Every quid is redemmed with a human sacrifice, and the verdant cemetery is a tragedy, a tragedy of broken bodies, and crushed lungs, of miners' complaint, and the result of the redemptiveness murdered by the plundering profit-gouls, and the portals of manhood. Mount Morgan is hell. It is hell, so that Park Lane may be heaven. But the I.L.W. is in Mount Morgan. The A.W.U. is in Mount Morgan. The new and the old are going to clash. The old lives partly on the reputation of the fighters of the early nineties, and partly upon the philosophy of the "independent unionism." Still time brings straw bedfellows, and perhaps it is a case of straw showing how the wind blows. Even the stomach of Mr. Blackley, who is the result of the redemptiveness of his fellow officials in the middle north. And from indications the I.L.W., since the and uncompromising, will take all the virile spirits in Mount Morgan within a few short months.

I should have arrived in the town at 6.50 p.m., but A.W.U. Railway Minister Coyne's trains manage to scorch at the phenomenal rate of 24 miles in 49 hours. Consequently I arrived at 11 p.m. The meeting that had been arranged had to be abandoned. Anyway, on Sunday I had the opportunity of addressing a large and interested audience on the treason charges. Between the collection and the list taken through by our energetic fellow-worker, Hugh Clark, we were enabled to disburse £15/10 to the Release Committee in Sydney. With the exception of a few A.W.U. officials, and a discarded straw boss, the meeting was ours. There was no opposition, and all the questions were extremely sympathetic, of inspiring. On Friday next, I am going to show the difference between senile decay and youth, and one of the largest meetings ever held here is assured.

I am also going to the ballast pit, on the construction lines out from Rannes, and to get to the butchers and sugar-workers around Rockingham and Bannadrigg. Then I am due again at Cyprip, Brisbane, and then to Warwick down to the N.S.W. border. Good work should result, and the fact the Big Union is going to get a bigger hold.

The Brisbane "Telegraph" notes that the A.W.U. on the treasury, and hopes that the constitutionalists will prevail against the avowed I.L.W. We congratulate the A.W.U. on its boosters. The "Telly" terminates in effect with the following message, "That in revolution, the drops come to the French revolution, the drops come to the sea."

We three, "Telly," and the seam sometimes goes to the bottom.

Magistrate Bishop, when sentencing Bob Searle in Chertsey, in New Zealand said, "I am a Socialist, but not the same kind of Socialist that you are." The Hon. Mr. Bannerman, the deceased British Prime Minister, once said "We are all Socialists now-a-days." Prince Edward, the heir apparent, according to the press, has leanings towards Socialism. We are extremely glad that this line of bunk peddlers do not have any connection with the I.L.W. And they never will.

Last Tuesday I inspected the plant, and saw mine at present owned by the Mount Morgan Company, on behalf of the I.L.W., who are going to evacuate the mine, the common in a few short years. The management were too busy to show any regard, and seemed to be too anxious to explain everything. But we saw a rare metal lying here, but his life will be short. The I.L.W. is after the works.

Any worker who talks at the Mount Morgan furnace, smelters, etc., need not stand going to bed with a cold. He will stand the smelted slag. And Pat will send people and shareholders, pays the surface band, the machinery, and the sum of 1/1, a day. These men are portable, a fig to be sub-

mitted to the Arbitration Court, in which they ask for 14, a day. The local A.W.U. officials are attempting to get this demand modified, as they say, no one in Queensland on a similar scale asked for so much. The work would be hard, at a quid a day, and the workers should ignore the duck-shovers, who want to keep the motto of the Union, "Work, work, work, boys, work, and be contented." The I.L.W. will change things on the Mount shortly.

"Honest" John Adamson and Mat Reid (one time A.W.U. organiser) visited this town last Tuesday. They are forming branches of the Ghushional Fakiration, and trying to obtain recognition for the same. Being solid unionists and anti-capitalists, they visited the A.W.U. office to see the secretary, who performed mighty deeds (for the boss) in historic 1912. In the evening, at the Protestant Hall, John and Mat performed before a bored audience of old-age pensioners, local stragglers, twenty I.L.W. men, and a terrier bitch. John's stunt was an elaboration of the platform of the National Ass. He condemned "Direct Action," and bellowed darkly about the "Prussians of the industrial field." He is a very poor bunk peddler, but no better than Mat, whose main squabble was about the recognition that he didn't pay the necessary respect to the phenomenal ability of the Ghushional Fakiration. In fact, anything that he got a rummy-got whicker is a juvenile, who might talk the dresser over on to himself. Mat blew off querulously about responsible government, which would be guaranteed by the Ass. After Mat finished, the chairman woke up the audience, and they acted offensively. The National Fakiration has already got twelve members, and the I.L.W. is sagging at the knees.

John Storey, the leader of the Fairdinkums, repudiates the I.L.W. Many thanks. We may have some bad men in the I.L.W., but thank God, we have no politicians.

Our friends—Harland, A.W.U. organiser and cockroach capitalist at the Mount, recently said "WE (the A.W.U.) don't burn down buildings, print forgeries, notes on our press, and pay to defend ourselves." Suppose they will blame the "burning of the Rodney" on to the I.L.W. now. What did Bill Hamilton, Mat Harland, and the rest of the crew get three years for, Harland? The I.L.W. are your friends going to bring YOUR Mr. Down back from the South African? Don't say a word about the 28 agreements.

Mr. Higgs, M.B.R., to a local business man: "Have nothing to do with the I.L.W. If you had one driving for you, they'd break your horse's legs." And the I.L.W. leaders (I) have the check to charge the I.L.W. with sabotage. Privation is a form of master class preparation.

Three National Industrial Unions of the Industrial Workers of the World will be brought into existence within the next few months. A.N.U. of metalliferous miners, one of water-side workers, and one in the pastoral industry, which will operate chiefly between middle N.S.W. and North Queensland. Millions of leaflets and pamphlets will be distributed, and propaganda must be concentrated on the industrial requirements of the pastoral and agricultural department to be the existing organisations two years to show their existence in the matter. They have either failed or not tried. The Industrial Workers of the World is out. And to hell with our enemies.

BRISBANE LOCAL.
ROOM OVER POST OFFICE,
STANLEY ST., BRISBANE.
MEETINGS.
Alternate Tuesdays—Business Meeting.
Alternate Tuesdays—Social Meeting.
Friday, 8 p.m.—Outdoor Meeting, Market Square.
Sunday, 8 a.m.—Literate Hall, Lecture.
W. TREMBATH
Financial Secretary,
BRISBANE.
ROBERT ST., WOOLLOONGABBA,
BRISBANE.
ALL MEMBERS PASSING THROUGH ARE
INVITED TO LOOK UP THE LIBRARY.
SLAVES WELCOME
THE NUMBER OF THIS PAPER IS
113.

Economics.

(MARRY MARX).

WAGES.

There are several ways whereby wage-workers may try to improve their condition today. In Lesson V, we discussed Low Prices and their effect upon the condition of working class life. We discovered that as the price on the necessities of life fall, wages fall proportionately, because of the competition among wage-workers for jobs.

It would be impossible for an employer of labor to arbitrarily raise wages, just as it would be impossible for capitalists to arbitrarily raise the prices on commodities. The conditions must be favorable to such a rise or fall in prices. It is the Army of Unemployed men and women that force wages for the price of labor-power, when there is surplus value to fall.

In discussing prices in the last two lessons we have not said much about wages, or the price of labor-power, although it is a commodity just as stoves, coats of flour are commodities. And the value and price of labor-power are determined exactly as the price and value of all other commodities are determined.

Wage workers are always trying to get higher wages, or a better price for their labor power.

It is easy to understand that the gold miner who has a rise in wages from 3 dollars to 3 dollars a day, leaves less surplus value for the mine-owner. He receives back more of his product. And the aim of Socialists or revolutionary workers and women is to be owners of the entire product.

Confused economists have repeatedly claimed that a rise in wages was no benefit to the proletariat. They insisted that the capitalists would raise prices on the necessities of life, and that the workers would be just where they were before.

But in Value, Price and Profit, chapter II, page 17, Marx says: "How could that rise of wages affect the prices of commodities? Only assuming the actual proportion between the demand for, and the supply of, these commodities."

"It is perfectly true, that considered as a whole, the working class spends, and must spend, its income upon necessities. A general rise in the price of wages would, therefore, produce a rise in the demand for, and consequently (temporarily) in the market price, of necessities."

"The capitalists who produce these necessities would be compelled to raise the price of the rising market prices of the commodities."

Note, Marx says that temporarily the price on necessities would probably rise, owing to the increased demand for food, clothing and better houses, not because the capitalists decided to raise prices. And then note that begins to follow immediately:

"What would be the condition of those capitalists who do not produce necessities? In the fall in the rate of profit, consequent upon the general rise in the price of wages, they could compensate themselves by a rise in the price of their commodities. Therefore the demand for their commodities would not have increased."

"Consequent upon this diminished demand, the price of their commodities would fall in these branches of industry, therefore, the rate of profit would fall."

"What would be the consequence of this difference in the rate of profit for capitalists employed in the different branches of industry? Why, the consequences that generally obtain whenever, from whatever reason, the rate of profit comes to differ in the different spheres of production."

"Capital and labor would be transferred from the less remunerative to the more remunerative branches; and this process of transfer would continue until the supply in one branch would be equal to the demand, and proportionately to the increased demand, and accordingly have sunk in the other departments."

"This change effected in the general rate of profit would again be equalized in the different branches. As the whole dragnetment originally arose from a mere change in the proportion of the demand for, and supply of, different commodities, the cause leading to the rise would cease and prices would return to their former level and equilibrium."

"The general rise in the rate of wages would, therefore, after a temporary disturbance, be equalized in all branches. Any permanent changes in the price of commodities, we will use a concrete illustration to explain the point. In a mining camp the miners secure for each wagon of 7 tons the advanced price, but the third week a new restaurant was opened by a man who heard

of the "prosperity" in this particular camp, and inside of two months there were four restaurants competing for trade in Golden Gulch. This competition among the restaurant keepers forced board down to 3 dols. a week. Some of them moved away until board fell to the average rate of board in that state.

As long as prices were better there the investors came to Golden Gulch, and when they fell below the average price for board they moved away.

Marx says that when workmen and women get higher wages, they spend this increase in better food, better homes and better clothing. This stimulates the demand for food, clothing and houses. More capitalists begin to invest in food production, in houses and in the manufacture of clothing. The competition among capitalists often brings the prices on these things below the rates charged before the workers received their increase. Until these capitalists find that they can make more money in other fields, they invest in other industries and prices fall to what they were before the rise in wages.

On the very last page of Value, Price and Profit, Marx says again: "The result in a fall of the general rate of profit, but, broadly speaking, not affect the prices of commodities."

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as the workers 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 means and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industry into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade union unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one of their own wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interests of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members are in one industry, or in all industries if necessary, and which whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, 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 banners the revolutionary watchword: "Abolition of the wage system!" It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized not only for the everyday struggle with capitalism, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

SYDNEY LOCAL.

Meetings &c.
Street Propaganda at Bathurst and Liverpool Streets every Friday and Saturday Evenings, at 8 p.m.; also Sunday Evening, at 11 a.m.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

"DIRECT ACTION."
The subscription to "Direct Action" is sent address in the Commonwealth, including postage, is as follows:
L.D.—Two Pounds 2s. 6d. Yearly.
Apply, The Manager, Box 68 Haymarket P.O., Sydney.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L.D.—Try press first. Poetry is not in your line. Australian paper—We are in sympathy with you, but not wish to publish at present. J.P.O.—Unsatisfactory.
Well! Wisher—We wish you well in your studies in the Dominion, but learn a little bit more before you offer advice.

Published by Tom Barker, of 28 Francis Street, Sydney, for the "Direct Action" and Release Committee, at 403 George Street, Sydney, and printed by H. Cook and Co., 290 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.