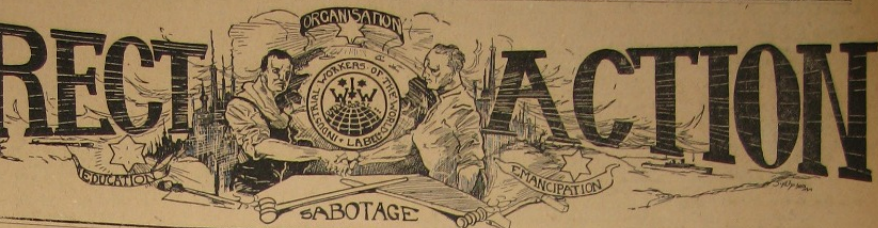


# One Big Union For the International Working Class



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SYDNEY, DECEMBER 18, 1915.

ONE PENNY

## The Law and the Stickers.

On September 14, Tom Barker was fined £20 at the Magistrate's Court for publishing a sticker which advocated sabotage, without the imprimatur of the Printing Act. It was decided to appeal against the excessive sentence imposed, at the Quarter Sessions.

At the Quarter Sessions, however, Judge Backhouse said that "we all know what sabotage is," and refused to interfere with the magistrate's decision. A month was allowed in which to pay.

The fine, however, was not paid, although the case had been heard over ten weeks ago. Neither did the police call around for Barker. The authorities, after the case came off, held £25 belonging to F.W. Morgan as a security for the fine.

On F.W. Morgan trying to get the return of his money, he was told by the Clerk of the Sessions that he would have to apply to the Minister for Justice. In reply to the letter which was sent to the Minister for Justice the following was received:—  
Department of the Attorney General and Justice, Sydney.

19th December, 1915.

Mr. F. Morgan,  
132 Chalmers street, Sydney.  
Sir,—In reply to yours of the 29th November, 1915, stating that the sum of £25, deposited by you in support of recognisances to meet the appeals of Tom Barker against his convictions, has been retained, although the appeals have been disposed of, I have to state that—

His Excellency the Governor has approved of the fine of £20 with costs, imposed in the case of Barker under the provisions of the "Printing Act" being remitted.  
You should make application to the Clerk of Petty Sessions, Central Police Court, for the refund of £25, which, it is understood, is held by him.

J. C. WILLIAMS,  
Under Secretary.

## A BUTTON OF RED.

The devil sat in his britstons once in a cosy corner of hell, and grinned at the way he'd run the earth since Adam and Eve both fell. He owned the rulers and owned the courts; he owned the churches and schools; he owned the scribes and he owned the press, and all the rest of the tools. He had stoned the prophets and killed the Christ, and had buried the truth they told, and had furnished instead a phony faith and a god that was built of gold. He had collared every old thing in sight, from who laid the chunk to a throne, and was bossin' the job in his devilish style and bossin' it all alone. "It's a cinch I'll do it," the Devil quoth, as he scratched himself on the chin, when a gust of sulphur blew on his tail and a scardookin' imp stepped in.

"What's the matter now?" the Devil quoth, as he swatted a monster bat—and the imp handed over a BUTTON OF RED. "Your majesty, look at that!" The Devil gazed on the crimson badge and the hands that were clasped on it, and he knew in a jiffy what it meant, and it threw him into a fit. "Turn every demon loose!" he shrieked. "Fight this as any honest man would. To Paris, ye devils! Industrialists, we're gone, and the IS LEFT!"—Exchange.



BILLY, "HOW MANY? FIFTY THOUSAND! ALL RIGHT, BUT DON'T TAKE ME!"

## Canberra News.

E. Sills writes from Canberra.—  
In glancing through the columns of the "Navy" (the official organ of the R.W. and G.L.A.), I noticed a recent article dealing out stench to the one big union. The article is headed "Pandering to Non-Unionists," and I presume, written by a good unionist with old time ideas of unionism, apparently the author of the article is not accustomed to the latest fashion of industrial unionism, and therefore goes off pop on the L.W.M. method of administering medicine to the boss, the same as grand-dad used to practise yours truly when I first started to bang, do the honey-bog, and other modern dances; but I think, with careful handling, the writer of "Pandering to Non-Unionists" could be easily converted.

Things are running smoothly here on the New Settlement at present. There are a fair number of men employed, but they are scattered all over the place. I think an L.W.W. speaker could do good 'biz' here, if by chance one happened to stray this way. Most of the boys here are fairly well equipped and only need a small amount of turning up to produce the finished article. The camp which I am living in contains nearly all rebels, but one or two, and you will find them in any camp. I am thinking of buying the red flag off some of the tent poles after Xmas.  
I see by "Direct Action" that the one big union has reached Gosdall and

Mourilyan Sugar Mills, Queensland; boll holes which copped some of the energy out of my body, a few years ago when we worked 12 hours per day. (Britains never shall be slaves). Still the craft union crowd were celebrating an eight hour day in Brisbane, while thousands of slaves were working 12 hours in the O.S.R. sweat shops. The same conditions exist to-day in Australia, and thousands celebrate the eight hour day once a year, advertising the workers' product which the boss claims. Oh, Lord, shall we ever arise!

The so-called "Eight Hour Bill" is meeting with some drastic amendments in the N.S.W. Legislative Council. Holman and Co. can now tell the workers at election times that it wasn't their fault! The workers will get a genuine eight hour "law" when they decide to take it.

The number of destitute people on the books of the Benevolent Society in Sydney has increased 500 per cent since the war began. Most of those applying for aid were the wives and children of bankers, politicians, Universal Service League, and other paid patriots. All classes are making huge sacrifices in this war.

Industrial Efficiency on the job means prolonged holidays at both ends of the social scale. More holiday jaunts for the boss, and compulsory sight-seeing on the street corner for the working stiff.

Chaffey, M.L.A., and now enlisted for the front, in a speech at Tanworth recently, referred to Parliament as "a farce." Truth is sometimes gleaned from strange quarters.

Billy Hughes tells us that more than £50,000,000 will be Australia's share of war expenditure for the next twelve months. No wonder Judge Heydon says that "the living wage" is a principle which can't be adhered to. Fat requires all the surplus possible for investment in the War Loan.

"Why pay interest on War Loans?" is the title of a special article in last issue of "Australian Worker." Why? Because the Labor Party, of which the "Worker" is one of the mouthpieces, is perforce as much a tool of the Rent, Interest and Profit system, as any other party. When the workers organize to stop exploitation on the job there will be no interest on war loans, as there will be nothing to make war about. Until then the "Worker's" cry for "conscription of wealth" will remain a Utopian dream.

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## Iceberg Irvine and Conscription.

Iceberg Bill, who never worked and never will, says we must have courage to fight the nation's enemies. Seeing the motley crowd of the Australian Women's National League, he addressed we presume he means the courage necessary to stay at home and knit socks for soldiers. They will no doubt face the dangers that accompany knitting socks for the defenders of their country, such as paralysis, housemaid's knee, etc. With a smiling face and a sinking heart, while Willie is courageously waging his chin in defence of his country, "Irvine and Watt are worth a good difference they are both alike," says Paddy. "Australia is to be the fairest and richest prize for Germany if she wins this war." That's why Willie asks the old women of Toorak to support conscription, and knit socks to prevent the Germans coming here.

He says we cannot meet falsehood with truth, for in time of war truth lags lamely behind. He might also have said, truth is also found behind prison walls, placed there for its own protection, from the old women of Toorak and their breed. He also says there is one argument only open to us, the argument of armed soldiers (might is right when you have the might), his immortal for the Germans or others to use it, say in a general strike like the Brisbane fiasco, or the maritime strike some 25 years ago.

"Our Government," says Iceberg, "has offered 50,000 more men" (had others from Toorak). It never troubled him that the said 50,000 might want to stay at home and assist Billy in his recruiting campaign, or to spend part of Billy's unearned income. He says the only way to win is to force every man to go forward and fight for Australia, and Willie will lead us on in the transport.

To ask the question, "Whether it is democratic that the sons of the rich and poor should share the same disgust on the battlefield?" Per-sonally, I should like to see the bastards at Toorak here first. I am sure it would not be necessary to ask anyone anywhere after that. The poor man's son shares the conscription here, with a poor man's daughter, from Toorak (?); that's democracy. Democracy and Conscriptio go hand in hand in France, where you go back to work as soldier sons, an ideal state of affairs for the like of Iceberg. The highest duty of the natives of Toorak man's son share the conscription at least once and election, and "The voluntary system leaves behind those who have neither spirit nor courage." Why Irvine says so, it is not my business.

R. M. BOSE.

DIRECT ACTION Our Standpoint The New

International

Conscription by Starvation.

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'Honor' Among --

The Sydney Labor Council is certainly making history in its strike-breaking propensities. At its last meeting opinion seemed to be divided on the question whether some of the organizations affiliated should seab outright on the Engineers who were on strike for higher pay at Newcastle, or whether the council should content itself merely with condemning the strike of the strikers.

With the Labor Council, apparently, to seab in so much entirety, to such a matter of the violation of principle as a question of the degree to which it should be put into operation.

A motion was moved condemning the action of the Engineers in demanding increased wages for minimum making. The mover of the motion, one Black, of the electrical trades, seemed to have his patriotic ardour deeply moved by the danger of strikes to the national safety and the national honor. "There were men," he said, "whose desire seemed to get hold of the labor movement and drag it to the devil." Perhaps the men to whom he was referring would sooner go to the devil with good unionists that he found in the arms of Jesus with seabby individuals of the Black type. However that may be, if the labor movement's honor depends upon subscribing to the principle underlying Black's motion, honor is a word the meaning of which has certainly become inverted in Labor Council discussions.

Black's seabby soul is white, however, compared with the delegate from the Blacksmiths, one Adler, who moved the following amendment—

"That in the event of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Australasian Society of Engineers refusing to supply men at laboring out at manufacturing munitions, the following RESOLUTION COUNCIL WILL TAKE STEPS TO SUPPLY NECESSARY LABOR TO CARRY OUT THIS WORK."

The true function of the Labor Council manifests itself in this amendment. Adler also seemed to fear that the "honor" of the council was in jeopardy. He argued that "it should take up at labor movement into disrepute in the eyes of the community."

What a "disreputable" labor movement, indeed, which could neglect its obvious duty of breaking strikes, refusing wages, and confounding its laboring out principles, which the Adler and

A cable message informs us that Germany has called up old men for active service "with one eye, lame hunchbacks, sufferers from tuberculosis, and heart disease." The Allies must be a "cronk" lot if they can't beat that bunch.

The minimum adult wage for public school teachers in New South Wales is two shillings a week. When a Labor Government permits those who have the training of the workers' children to exist, or rather to starve, on a wage of that kind, the parents themselves and their children need not expect much consideration.

Says "Sydney Herald": "Forty years ago no country in the world could spend at the rate several are spending today without immediate and irrefutable bankruptcy. Now capital is accumulating with a rapidity never previously equalled in the world's history. Means now are so more than hundreds of thousands were then."

This indicates that for the past forty years the surplus which the workers produced over and above their wages has increased from hundreds of thousands to millions. And yet we are told that the workers' "lack of efficiency" is the cause of his poverty.

Kavanagh, M.L.C., General Secretary of the New South Wales Scab Council, on his return from Melbourne the other day, told the press that strikers were also prevalent in Victoria, and that there is an ulterior cause for it all. I can't say, he remarked. The "ulterior" cause, of course, to which he refers, is the convenient lie set in motion by the capitalist press that the epidemic of strikes is due to German agents. Kavanagh dared not put his foot in it and say outright that this was the cause, but being a good "patriot" and benchman of the master class, he "has his doubts." No German agent could be as dangerous to workmen as he is as dangerous to working class interests as "labor leaders" of the Kavanagh type.

Craft unions in Australia almost outrival their brethren in the American Federation of Labor in jurisdiction, or what is locally called demarcation, disputes. The latest strike in this connection is that of carpenters and joiners at Garden Island, who object to the Shipwrights' Union doing certain work. If these frequent strikes of worker against worker were taken up into one effort against the bourgeois, the work in the shape of shorter hours, instead of more of it, there would be no need for the slave to be jealous because the other fellow had a job. The solution is not in demarcation strikes, but in reducing the hours of labor, so that all may have an opportunity to exist.

the Blacks represent.

Morby, of the Furniture Trades supported the amendment "as a Socialist." Morby has hitherto posed as one of the militants in this craft union movement. He is fighting ardent has now taken on the aspect of a militant desire to seab.

Motion and amendment were subsequently blended into a sort of pious wish "That the unions shall refrain from demanding wages in excess of the recognised award rate."

Judges and chairmen of Arbitration Boards will no doubt mark, note and learn. The Sydney Labor Council has given it forth that the workers' contentment with the lot in life which £50 a week parasites assign to him, as an exhibition of discontent with this pronouncement may be treated as an offence calculated "to drag the labor movement to the devil." What a heavenly prospect for the workers when "organised labor" affirms its intention to seab strikes out of existence.

"Solidarity" in its issue of November 13, says—

The International Convention of the Italian I.W.W. Propaganda Leagues of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont, which met in Boston, Mass., on the 1st, discussing the armed conflict which is devastating the fairest lands of Europe, and exterminating millions of youthful lives, inflicting its heaviest damage upon the members of our class;

Holds, that the present tragic conflagration is the logical consequence of the morality of rapine and plunder, which inspires the action of all the belligerent nations of whatever political superstructure, from the constitutional democracy to the absolute autocracy; and that today as always the deadly violence of arms is called upon to settle the antagonisms of interest, which spring from the free expansionist rivalries and mirages of commercial supremacy;

Retains, that the German Social Democracy and the trades union under its evil influence, which were first called upon to face the mobilisation order, have betrayed in a cowardly manner the International to which they had falsely sworn allegiance, and have contributed to cloud the precise class viewpoint of those workers in other nations who had in the past carried on serious anti-militarist activities, so that their participation in the war, although in part, is the excuse of a great provocation;

Holds further, that the International which has succumbed, was composed of nationalistic and heterogeneous and antagonistic in character, so that they could with difficulty be expected to oppose a united front to the war;

And decides to insist upon the state of hostility to the war which our official organ, "Il Proletario" now takes, holding that it is more than ever necessary today to expose the insupportable class exploitation which has had an catastrophic effect on the proletariat.

Since the I.W.W. in its theoretical conceptions and in its technical structure, cancels the artificial distinctions of nationality, birth and race, to the place of birth and language spoken, and in the WORKERS OF THE WORLD of all races, according to their socially useful industrial functions, and holding that that they should take the initiative in forming the new International, allowing the participation of those labor unions which recognise and accept the abolition of private property, the class struggle, direct action and a tenacious and violent opposition to militarism—the principal support of capitalist society, which exploits, oppresses, and throws us into fratricidal war—and excluding and boycotting economic organisations like the A.F. of L. and all others in all countries which do not subscribe to the above revolutionary programme.

Copies of this motion to be sent to Solidarity, the Executive Board of the I.W.W., and all revolutionary labor press at home and abroad.

MAZZARELLA, MURATORI, CANNATA, FAGGI

Presented by the above men and approved unanimously by the convention.

If the workers had consciously and systematically decreased their output for a few years—if they had worked shorter hours and produced a larger proportion of the product of their labor, there would be no millions of accumulated capital today be utilized for the purpose of blowing those same workers to hell with.

Fifty thousand more men are needed from Australia for the war. Conscription in its most insidious form is to be used for the purpose of raising them. The military authorities are not called upon to act and force the unwilling worker to the trenches at the point of the bayonet. That might cause workers to think that the military authorities are not called upon to act and force the unwilling worker to the trenches at the point of the bayonet. That might cause workers to think that the military authorities are not called upon to act and force the unwilling worker to the trenches at the point of the bayonet. That might cause workers to think that the military authorities are not called upon to act and force the unwilling worker to the trenches at the point of the bayonet.

Who will blame the worker if stranded and penniless, he decides to face the bayonets instead of the infinitely more cruel weapon of starvation? Another satisfactory aspect of this conscription scheme is that it only applies to those who are dependent on wages for their daily bread, and excludes from service those whom Holman would refer to as the "intellectual elite." The Universal Service League, of which Holman is a member, has been quick to see the advantage of this compared to other forms of conscription, and has developed its agitation for straight-out conscription in favor of the "voluntary system."

A scheme which drives the commander to the firing line, and leaves the sons of the "bourgeois" whom Holman thinks so necessary to our welfare at home—to show their patriotism in grooving fat on gun-gilt-gilded securities—is surely superior to anything that could be conceived in the brain of a mere German junker.

Maritime unionism throughout Australia is gratulating itself upon having such statutory force of conscription at the head of the Federal Government as Billy Hughes.

"If the unions assist the Government scheme, there will be no need for compulsion," said Hughes lately to a deputation in Queensland. This is a plain hint that the unions also are expected to take a hand in victimising men of military age who may have a different interpretation of what constitutes patriotism to Hughes and his good union henchmen.

Hughes demands that the unions for many vile purposes in the past, and no doubt he will get

a good deal of support from this source in pushing the workers into the European shambles.

The spokesmen of Australian unionism have displayed a keen anxiety to justify the voluntary system—as if there were any difference in principle between the various systems of militarism—and their offensive loyalty to co-operating along the lines which Director Hughes suggests.

All of which shows to what dire depths the so-called labor movement has degraded itself.

Reared in the lap of Militarism, accustomed to look to either sources rather than to their own direct action in their struggles of the past, it is no wonder that the Australian workers find themselves to-day absolutely at the mercy of the hoodlums and politicians, treated not as men who are supposed to have any ideas of their own, either on war or other matters pertaining to their welfare, but as things, mere automatons, to be ordered about as they wish, or starved at the whim of those who themselves raised out of the gutter and placed in the lap of luxury.

If labor organisations today had a spark of the genuine spirit by which a working class movement should be animated, and the blood-thirsty capitalist crew whose interests he is serving, could be made fawn at the feet of those fifty thousand men whom they now intend to starve or indirectly murder.

ACTIVITIES OF LOCAL NO. 6 HALL, LANE ST., BOULDER, W.A.

- Wednesday Evenings, in Hall-Class Meeting. Friday Evening, Boulder Post Office-Propaganda Meeting. Saturday Evening, Kalgoorlie-Propaganda Meeting. Sunday Morning, 10.30 a.m., Hall-Business Meeting. Sunday Afternoon, Keane's Goldfield Hotel, Athletic Club, at 2.30-Lecture. Sunday Evening, Boulder-Propaganda Meeting. Good Library at Hall. All Beds are invited to dig in and make Industry the Topic of the Day.

F. H. LUNN.

ADELAIDE READERS

Can obtain copies of "Direct Action" and Industrialist Literature from Charles Russell, bootmaker, Glenelg-street, Bowden, Adelaide, S.A.

I. W. W. Preamble.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want 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 have organized as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centreing of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which makes it impossible for the workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions have helped 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 in any one industry, or in all industries, if necessary, cease work whenever a strike, or a lockout in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto: "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword: "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working-class to do away with Capitalism, the power of producing wealth to be organized, not only for the everyday struggle with capitalists, 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.



