

Wanted! 1,000 Industrialists and Lovers of Freedom to help fill Maitland Jail

DIRECT ACTION



VOL. 2 NO. 23

Registered at G.P.O. Sydney. SYDNEY, FEB. 15, 1915.

ONE PENNY.

From the United States.

163 166 W. Washington St.,
Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.
Jan. 14, 1915.

Gen. Secretary Treasurer,
Australian Administration,
I.W.W.

Fellow Worker.

Mighty glad to hear that the I.W.W. is prospering in Australasia. It is likewise picking up in other parts of the world. Communications from England show that they are carrying on a vigorous agitation in the world metropolises. They have organised some locals, and are making a strong campaign against war.

We get "Direct Action" regularly, and hope with you that you will be able to have it on a weekly basis soon. "Solidarity" will be glad of a report from that country. It certainly will be of interest to its readers.

It is good to know that things are booming in Australasia, and that your publishing bureau is doing well. In this country there is a terrible condition of unemployed. While no statistics have been gathered on the matter, I should judge that there are from 5 to 6,000,000 idle workers in all branches of industry. The Socialist Party and the American Federation of Labor offer no relief for the situation. The I.W.W. is organising the unemployed in Propaganda Leagues, issuing a temporary card which will be accepted in lieu of initiation fee by the locals when the holder goes to work. With best wishes, I am, yours for Industrial Freedom.

W. D. HAYWOOD.

Gen. Secy. Treasurer, I.W.W.

Melbourne.

The revolutionary agitation conducted by the I.W.W. is beginning to make itself felt in Melbourne. The slaves are waking up to the "go to sleep" tactics of politicians and trade union leaders. Direct action and sabotage are very often subjects of discussion on the job, and a few bosses have learnt what sabotage means.

Some Trades Hall officials have already begun to squeal and fawn against the I.W.W. Through the growing intelligence of the slaves and their high positions are getting very shaky. One official, in trying to justify his position, refused to get to facts, but was "firing" and "sawing" all sorts of things. When asked: "If the bottom was to fall out of hell, what then?" he mentioned something about "unreasonable," and walked away scratching his rear pants in an endeavour to loosen up his thick tank.

Last Sunday at the Yarra bank the names of sellers of "Direct Action" were taken by the police. What action, if any, will be taken by the authorities, we do not yet know.

The slaves of Melbourne are ready for a maddest revolutionary dope of industrial unionism, and Fellow-Workers, Wilson, Farrell, Johnson and Rancie have been busy per medium of the soapbox. N.R.



The Amazing Adventures of Mr Simple.

(1) After being sabotaged in the last issue, Mr. Simple became so disgusted with everything, that he got violently drunk. He is on his way home, carrying a bottle for the morning, when the policeman who had his eye on Mr. Simple arrests him.

(2) Mr. Simple's moustaches fairly bristles with indignation, and he determines to give the policeman a go for it. He gets in some fast work with the bottle, a few left hooks, and some half-leg jolts with the feet to the stomach. Fortunately, for Mr. Simple, reinforcements

arrive, and he is quickly put out of action.

(3) Next morning before the Sipe Mr. Simple is charged with assault, and feels very small indeed. Mr. Simple pleaded that the policeman had assaulted him. "Tut, tut," says the Sipe, "six months."

(4) However, Bombardier Kettle-drum, of the Starvation Army, has Mr. Simple released as a first offense, thinking that M. Simple is a crowds and plenty of money in Mr. Simple's testimony.

(5) After Mr. Simple has been

going some time, the heads of the Intelligence Ordinary find out that he is only an ordinary respectable working man, and not a double-dyed criminal, wife-beater, twoup player, dog-stealer, etc., so they give him the office to get out. "How dare he make a fool of them?"

(6) Mr. Simple is on his way looking for another master. He thinks about joining the I.W.W., but decides to wait until they are a little stronger, and to allow George to keep on doing the propaganda work as before.

TO LOCALS.

To make this paper interesting to the membership, we must have plenty of news. News can't be manufactured by the Editor. Let each local elect a correspondent, who can write brief terse accounts of activities, etc.

Trouble in Newcastle.

F.W. Reeves and Morgan have summoned to appear at Newcastle Police Court on the 17th inst., for speaking in Perkins-street, in Newcastle, on the 5th February. The charge is that they were loitering and causing an obstruction, after being warned by an officer of the Council to desist.

It seems quite evident that the Bumbles of Newcastle are going to attempt to stifle free speech in the same way as has recently been done in Brisbane and Port Pirie. They will not enforce their Medival, Prussianised mandates without considerable trouble. The I.W.W. can speak in any other part of Australia without interference by the authorities, but in Newcastle, the centre of one of the greatest working-class districts in the Commonwealth, liberty of public expression is denied.

The I.W.W. is going to have a fight for it. Maitland Gaol will only hold 150. The free-footed brigade in all parts of the State are warned to make their way to Newcastle, and help not only to maintain free speech but also to form a strong, determined propaganda organisation.

The fight will seriously start on 21st February, when the second contingent will arrive from Sydney. Members are already on the way from Broken Hill, and all the members working on the railway camps are preparing for the fray.

Besides, there are thousands of unemployed around Newcastle, and as fellow workers the I.W.W. asks them to make this fight theirs.

There is free board and lodging in Maitland for 150 men. Why starve? The I.W.W. will flood the mining districts with songs, posters, papers, and educational matter. They will propagate SABOTAGE, the new weapon of the working class, a weapon against which all the courts and officialdom are powerless.

Newcastle for the I.W.W. We have eight locals in Australia and more forming. We want Newcastle. We want freedom of speech. And we are going to take it.

WANTED, 1,000 men who are not afraid of jail; who have got red blood in their veins. Men like the miners of Eureka. Men who will not bow down to the mandates of cockroach business Councils, and the syphocanth lackies of the coal barons.

They can gao! men, but they cannot gao! ideas. They can gao! 1000 men, but they cannot gao! the I.W.W. We will propagate the reduction of the output of the One Big Union idea. And Newcastle won't be a home for parasites and dividend drawers until the I.W.W. has been there six months. Between the development of oil and the I.W.W., John Browns and Co. won't be the nice stay it used to be.

Get to Newcastle, boys! With both feet. The gao! is comfortable, so get there early, as the accommodation is limited.

Don't forget Sunday, the 21st; that will be the opening of the campaign proper.

BUMBLERS OF NEWCASTLE

THE I.W.W. THRIVES ON PERSECUTION.

BUMBLERS OF NEWCASTLE. THE KAISER WILL BE GLAD TO MEET YOU.

BUMBLERS OF NEWCASTLE. THE I.W.W. IS AFTER YOUR YOUR GOAT.

War on Capitalism.

The Reduction of the Output.

This slowing down process will create a demand for more labor, which will reduce the number of unemployed, which in its turn will reduce the amount of "competition" amongst the workers, and naturally result in a corresponding rise in wages, and improvement in conditions.

Therefore, despite all modified pseudo economic and their teachings, the I.W.W. says, "The less work you do, the more you will get out of it."

In these days of machine production and "psychotechnics," the machine has become predominant to man, the piece is made by the machine, and the man becomes a mere stereotype, a piece of the mechanism. Such a man is a vegetable.

The I.W.W. claims that feed and blood is higher and greater than the leviathan of steel and iron, and that to end we propagate the beneficial effects of each new labor saving device; he is reducing the amount of unpaid labor time, which provides the ruling class and their lackies with their means of life. His power; he is weakening the power of the State, and every other institution that binds him down to present-day slavery, that justifies and persecute him, he is strengthening himself by weakening his masters, and by developing his controlling power over the means of wealth production, and finally, in attacking surplus value, he is carrying on the only scientific campaign against War, and its effects.

Workers of Australia, carry the message of the I.W.W. far and wide. Slow down, slow down, slow down.

Refuse to be slaves, and bid wars of scabbary and unemployment. Refuse to be things, with a machine for your master.

Down with the masters of bread, the plunder patriots, the lords of hoarded gold. Use with the One Big Union of the Working Class, the Industrial Workers of the World. Free yourselves.

As Redburn said—

"There's nothing grand in a horny hand,

"There's nothing fine in a bendable knee,

"There's nothing hold in a lack of gold."

TOM BARKER.

Direct Action

Labor Power An English Letter.

From our English Representative.

Owing to the surprisingly decreased demand for labor in most industries, many patriots have been forced to go for their holidays on the Continent, where a metallic and bomb hazard is being felt. This has produced a most striking result in the household departments of the holiday-makers, whose wives and mothers have found it necessary to dispense with their motor cars, pianos, washing-tubs, beds and blankets, and their Sunday clothes. These prices found ready sale for cash, at prices 30 per cent below normal value, at the Ivy Mo and Three Balls Department, in which magnificent returns are reported.

Though most commodities have greatly increased since the War, our readers will be pleased to learn that labor power, of which the market is glutted, is selling at very low prices. One brand (the navy brand) is selling as low as 41d. per hour. Best Carpenter at 74d., Clerk hand (rest fitted and skilled) is hard to sell at 20s.; for a week's supply. Unfitted labor, cannot be kept in cold storage, otherwise large quantities of it could be bought up and used when it was good.

That shooting "accident" in Dublin just before the War, had a bad effect on the sale of patriotism. The result was an offer for sale in that city. In fact, very little of it can be had at the current rate, namely, 1s. 8d. per year. This commodity, like all others, is expressed and estimated in terms of exchange value. We fear that its price will have to be increased to 1s. 9d. The small sheet and learn we are not satisfied, and will henceforth be known as the "Bontans." Thanks to the Y.M.C.A. for this new report.

A few thousand small firms are about to become bankrupt, but it will greatly strengthen the economic foundation of our big trustified firms. The War has been great impetus to the concentration of capital.

Our workers not having all joined the I.W.W., we have nothing to fear from an internal enemy. We are sorry that large quantities of good labor power, through want of luck, is dying rapidly.

We are now giving daily instructions to our Executive at Westminster.

All the Labor M.P. and politicians have thrown in their lot with us, and they are doing good service as recruiting agents.

SECRETARY.

Employers' One Big Union

Needless to say, that since August the fourth of the current year, there has been a great change in market prices. The prices of the most essential commodities, which constitute the greater part of proletarian life, have greatly advanced since the above date. Against this rise we are pleased to report that the prices of such commodities as motor cars, champagne, venison, silk hats, etc., are much easier. On the other hand, fish and chips, though still remaining the same price, have greatly advanced, with the result that the Fish and Chip Vendor Department, is doing good returns, and hope for a continuance of the present European struggle.

Owing to the Continental Congress, January sports are continuing in daily form from the Atlantic.

Yesterday's cable message from the above is as follows:—"Dreadnoughts and marine bombs in great demand. Old supply is being completely sold out. Great demand for 'Long rangers' from all countries. Cannot supply fully at present. Gun-otto, 100 per cent increase in July price. Every department. From August the 31st value 1000 per cent. No more slaves available."

SECRETARY A.R.

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(The following letter has just come to hand from F.W. Percy Short, who is well known to members of Direct Action and New Zealand—Editor.)

40 Lonschaye Road, Nelson, Lancashire, England, December 3, 1914.

Fellow-Worker,—Glad to hear that you are still active and on the job. The other day I received two copies of "Direct Action" from Fellow-Worker C. Blackburn, and I sent them like forbidden fruit, enclosing herewith a few notes that you may use for "D.A." I shall forward you a few reports, from time to time, of the slave movement here in Merry England. The trade union movement in England is growing rapidly—weaker. The B.S.P. in England is about 5,000 weak—or was before the War. A good many gone to the front, thinking, perhaps, that they had been at the back long enough. I called at the B.S.P. and asked the secretary, "How many members have you?" Reply: "Not many now; most of them have gone to the front." Again, when my note was sent to the Nelson B.S.P. secretary: "What are your activities?" Reply: "We have a billiard table upstairs." And he said this without a smile. I went on to the next party in England, "The Voice of Labor," that is keeping straight; it is published by the anarchists.—Yours for the earth,

PERCY B. SHORT.

Some Notes.

In British Ceylon, I was amazed to find women hiring stoves, and doing scavenger work in the streets for the municipality. They get from 1s. to 1s. 4d. a day. Women do all the house painting, and get 2s. a day. I saw women carrying bricks and mortar on their heads to the top of five storey buildings. Women at the top do all the work. In this country, rickshaw rippers get 10d. an hour.

When passing through the working class quarters on the outskirts of Paris, I counted, in one street, eight shops where horse flesh was sold. These shops are readily distinguished from all others by the presence of a gilded horse's head projecting from the front of the shop. No such shops are to be found in the West End.

In Dublin women are getting as much as 1s. an hour as men. The bicycle works at Cradley Heath, England, work ten hours for 1s. 6d. The women of Ceylon live on rice and water, and the Cradley Heath women live on chips and water. They live at the factory, but go "home" to sleep.

The slow-capitalists in England want more government and more law; they want government from the top downwards, not from the bottom upwards. The direct actionist wants control of the industry in which his works he wants decentralised administration; not centralised autocracy.

A new ideal! The writer went to a fruit shop with a mixer to buy some oranges. The young lady behind the counter asked: "Will you give the best?" My friend replied, "Yes, please, the best is quite good enough for me, thank you."

Say, Mr. Slave! When will the best be good enough for you! When you ask for the cheapest, you ask for the worst. Funny, eh!

A government must have something to govern. The slave is the something.

A slave ideal!—"A constant job." How to lose strikes—give the boss plenty of notice; it gives him plenty of time to procure scabs.

When is the best time for hay-makers to stop? In the winter—English slave logic.

P. B. SHORT.

More "Unionism."

There are two unions of carpenters employed in the State Government dockyards in Melbourne. They hate one another like poison, even to the extent of scabbing upon each other.

The Anatomized Society of Carpenters which is affiliated with the Australian Trades Hall went on strike recently, and most of their places were held by the Australian Progressive (1) Society of Carpenters affiliated with the Sydney Trades Hall.

There is going to be a few protesters, as usual. We understand that the notorious Packer has the head quarters of his infamous free laborer organization in Melbourne, from which he supplies scabs to break strikes. In Sydney, however, his organization with have hard work getting a footing at the Sydney Trades Hall and its affiliates, do that kind of work.

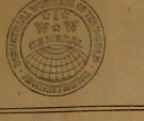
We suggest, however, to the Trades Hall in Sydney that it decidedly had taste to enter Packer's territory as competitors in the strike-breaking business.

MORE LEGISLATION.

Minister Estell is going to reconvene the Arbitration Act, so as to make strikes legal—which is very kind of our benevolent Labour Party, who tried to get on good terms with the State, by making strikes illegal. There ain't goals enough in N.S.W. to accommodate the millions of Huggenbush's selfishness to maintain their own the Hard Labour Gang have to think down.

They think that strike can't be prevented, so more than what can. Startling discovery, sir!

"DIRECT ACTION" was corresponded has returned from its expedition, and in future all the latest facts, German retards and Allies advances will be manufactured and graphically described by him. He'll use workers with ideas for making the news startling and tasty, as he does in the newspaper, and he'll be the Editor. The correspondent was aboard the "Indiana," at the time when that ship was sunk by the "Hulk" and the Marshall Islands, and barely escaped with his life.



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Worker. Militarism and the Deisel Engine. Emancipation.

By JACKSONIUS.

(A Mack.)

The dogs of war have broken loose in Europe; and in their eager haste to get at one another... Militarism is a human life and bathing Europe in seas of blood.

The Deisel engine must in future play the most important part in the production of wealth for profit.

Through all the world today rings the anguished cry of a tortured and starved worker class. This same cry has rumbled along the continents ever since civilization saw daylight.

"The One Big Union is no good. How could they organise all the different industries satisfactorily? Impossible!"

You will hear some of potgut's slaves saying: "I might as well hang on here at Canberra late that should convince any wage slave that these craft unions are up to much."

As one of the necessary institutions the master-class, militarism must be attacked and exposed in all its hideousness.

In the first instance, far less space is taken up in the engine-room, leaving a saving capacity for an extra 1000 tons of cargo.

We will, however, skip the centuries and investigate the fight, and the methods, for freedom in our own times.

Two organisers of the Builders' Laborers came on the scene unawares and claimed all builders' laborers and anyone belonging to them. They promised all kinds of concessions to anyone who joined the Union.

Vicious, vile, villainous as militarism is, it nevertheless is not the greatest of all evils in the capitalist system.

This vessel can carry sufficient oil to act as ballast and fuel to produce at the rate of 13 hours per hour. The end of the world is just a few days away.

A quarter of a century back the workers in this country were engaged in bloody economic strife with their kind and hated masters.

The R.W. sent an organiser along a week later to look after their interests (not ours), but by this time the Builders' Laborers' blokes had taken their departure.

In diagnosis of Capitalism—there looms up large before one a vision, a thousand and one social ills, a patriarchy, a hierarchy, which demand attention more urgently than militarism.

The glaring and monstrous enormities perpetrated by the master-class in their industrial hell, are of more concern to the wage-slaves than the clash between two armies of Capitalism.

They were to capture Parliament, to capture the political machinery of the masters, and use it against their masters.

This is one of our bit of a small squabble which goes on among the craft unions, and if all the things of this type were published, their columns about the 'order' would be full to overflowing.

The glaring and monstrous enormities perpetrated by the master-class in their industrial hell, are of more concern to the wage-slaves than the clash between two armies of Capitalism.

This vessel can carry sufficient oil to act as ballast and fuel to produce at the rate of 13 hours per hour. The end of the world is just a few days away.

They were to capture Parliament, to capture the political machinery of the masters, and use it against their masters.

This kind of thing must go on as long as craft unions exist. Let us do nothing but that effective, instead of fighting among ourselves, organise on scientific correct lines, and we will speedily reach our goal.

The master-class is always conjuring up some new device, in an attempt to lare the mind of the slave away from the job.

The end of the world is just a few days away. The end of the world is just a few days away. The end of the world is just a few days away.

They were to capture Parliament, to capture the political machinery of the masters, and use it against their masters.

Let us do nothing but that effective, instead of fighting among ourselves, organise on scientific correct lines, and we will speedily reach our goal.

The blood-thirsty vampires and murderous brivards who make up the employers, will stop at nothing to get their profits.

We must realise it is only a matter of a very limited time, countless thousands and millions of workers will have taken for their share.

They were to capture Parliament, to capture the political machinery of the masters, and use it against their masters.

Let us do nothing but that effective, instead of fighting among ourselves, organise on scientific correct lines, and we will speedily reach our goal.

Every minute that goes up our head, day and night, a human life is sacrificed to the greed of the masterclass.

We must mobilise our forces and march upon the Capitalist class and take them in their own den—the job.

They were to capture Parliament, to capture the political machinery of the masters, and use it against their masters.

Let us do nothing but that effective, instead of fighting among ourselves, organise on scientific correct lines, and we will speedily reach our goal.

There is a great war on—the battle in the drawing-nigh—the class battle in the vanguard of the Proletarian Army.

We must realise it is only a matter of a very limited time, countless thousands and millions of workers will have taken for their share.

They were to capture Parliament, to capture the political machinery of the masters, and use it against their masters.

Let us do nothing but that effective, instead of fighting among ourselves, organise on scientific correct lines, and we will speedily reach our goal.

The great class war is on. Let us drop all side issues and organise as the point of production and fight for the economic control of the job.

When do resolutions count! When they have no resolutions!

They were to capture Parliament, to capture the political machinery of the masters, and use it against their masters.

Let us do nothing but that effective, instead of fighting among ourselves, organise on scientific correct lines, and we will speedily reach our goal.

List of Locals in Australia.

- Adelaide Local No. 1: Secretary Charles Stewart, Unions, Adelaide, S.A. Sydney Local No. 2: Secretary Treasurer, J. Atreedy, 330 Bathurst-street, Sydney, N.S.W. Broken Hill Local No. 12 Secretary Treasurer, E. J. Kelly, 174 Broad Buildings, Sulphide-street, Broken Hill, N.S.W. Port Pirie Local No. 14: Secretary Treasurer, G. Kipert, Franklin-street, Port Pirie, S.A. Fremantle Local No. 4: Secretary Treasurer, N. Giffery, Myrtle-street, Fremantle, W.A. Boulder City Local No. 6: Secretary-Treasurer, M. Sawtell, 127 Wittenoom-street, Boulder City, W.A. Brisbane Local No. 7: Secretary Treasurer, C. H. Anlezark, 'The Mill', Cribb-street, Milton, Brisbane, Q.C. Melbourne Local No. 8: Secretary Treasurer, N. Rance, 13 West-street, South Melbourne, V.I.C.

Literature in Stock.

- Capital: Karl Marx, 3 volumes, pp. 800, 8s. Value Price and Profit: Marx, bound in 2s. paper 6d. The Evolution of Property: Lafargue, bound 2s. Ettor's and Giovannitti's Speeches From the Dock: Price, 2s. The New Unionism: Trilion, paper 1s. 8d. Sabotage: Pouget, bound 2s, paper 1s. 8d. Mr. Brock Cartoons: Rilbe, paper 8d. One Big Union: Trautmann, paper 6d. Communist Manifesto: Price, 6d. Right to be Lazy: Lafargue, bound 2s, paper 6d. Sabotage: W. C. Smith, paper 3d. New Australian Song Book: second edition, 3s. 3s. Price, 3s. I.L.W.: History, Structure, and Methods. St. John, paper 3d. Revolution and the I.L.W.: Pease, paper 3d. War! What For? Cartoon: Price, 3d. Summary of Marx's 'Capital', paper 2d. Revolutionary Unionism: E. J. Altshuler, paper 3d. Industrial Unionism: Hanlon, 2d. Economic Discount: paper 2d. How to Overcome the High Cost of Living: Dougherty, paper 3d. Wage Labor and Capital: Marx, paper 3d. Industrial Union Methods: Trautmann, paper 3d. The Diesel Motor: Frankenthal, paper 3d. Industrial Unionism: St. John, 2d. Chunks of I.L.W.-ism: A.H. 'Solidarity': I.L.W. American organ; Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum, posted; Single copies, 2d. They say that money talks all languages, but most of us don't hang on to it long enough to know what it is talking about. The differences between political action and direct action, is saying it and doing it. The workers won't think—the thinkers.

Queanbeyan.

E. SILLIS.

"PATRIOTISM."

We have had quite a good deal of snivelling hypocrisy about "German Culture" of late, through the humbug Australian Press.

We presume that this type of "cultured" English business man is thus conging greenbacks out of patriotic hysteria.

NEWCASTLE.

O.

Several members of the I.L.W., including F. W. Reeve, have visited Newcastle, and held propaganda meetings there.

Fellow-workers and sympathisers in the Newcastle district are requested to get in touch with the I.L.W., so that a strike and an organized local can be formed.

Letters are awaiting Neil White at this office.

Subscription Blank

For DIRECT ACTION. Enclosed find P.O. form for which send me Direct Action for 12 months at the following address:— NAME _____ (Street or P.O. Box) _____ City _____ State _____ (If moved, please mark an X here) "Critics" in the "New Zealand Truth" told the truth when it said, "The workers are kept lean by keeping 'fat' in." He might have added, "And 'Fat' is obliged to lean on the worker to keep fat."

Printed and Published on behalf of the Industrial Workers of Australia, by John Hennessy, Chairman of the Press Committee, 303 Castle-street, Sydney, N.S.W.