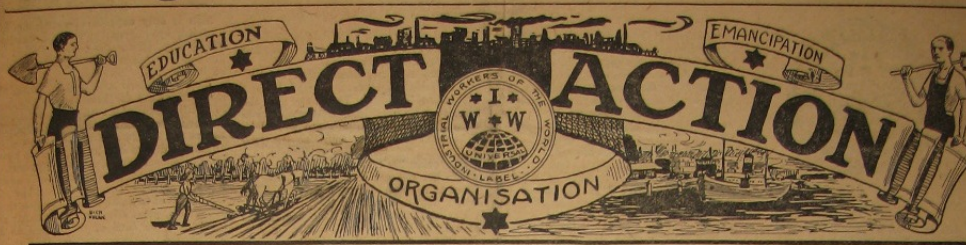


Organisations for Trade Unions.



Vol. 3 No. 102. Registered at the General Post-office, Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper. SYDNEY, December 30, 1916. ONE PENNY.

Defence Agitation.

PROTESTS.
The following resolution was carried at an executive meeting of the United Laborers' Protective Society, in connection with the sentences recently passed on twelve members of the working class:—

"That in view of the apparent violation, by the Prime Minister of the ordinary course of law and justice in adversely commenting on the conduct of the twelve members of the I.W.W., and their cases were sub-judice, justifying the public and press and probably the judge and jury, the United Laborers' Protective Society, sees the members of the organization to which the men belong to at once petition for a Royal Commission to investigate."

TRADES HALL ACTION.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.
Further consideration was given in camera tonight by the Trades Hall Council to the efforts which are being made by the Workers' Defence Committee of I.W.W. to secure a reduction in the sentences imposed by Mr. Justice Pring on several members of the I.W.W. in Sydney. The militant section, which now comprises at least two-thirds of the council, strongly defended the imprisoned men.

After a long discussion a motion was moved providing, in effect, that the council should cooperate with the Sydney Trades and Labour Council in an effort to induce the New South Wales Government to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the trial of the convicted men and the allegations generally against the I.W.W., and that, pending the appointment of the commission, the convicted men be released. The extremists of the council strongly advocated action which might result in the immediate liberation of the prisoners. An amendment was submitted, setting out that as a Labor Administration was in power in Queensland, the Government there should be asked to use its good offices with the Government in New South Wales in securing the release of the men. This was, however, rejected, and the motion was agreed to by a large majority.

—S.M. "Herald"

ROCKHAMPTON.

Fellow-Worker Jackson arrived from Sydney during this week, and on Friday journeyed to Mount Morgan and held a meeting there the same night. Subject, "The I.W.W. Conspiracy Charges: The Case For The Men in Gaol." Only one day to arrange this meeting, which took place in the main street, and at the end of which a show of hands was taken, and the resolution was carried unanimously demanding the immediate release of our men in gaol. Failing this a release of our men in gaol. Collection, £3 10, less train fare and other expenses, which amount to 5s 6d. Fellow-Worker Jackson addressed the workers of the Meat Industry (Central Queensland Branch) last Wednesday evening, and they have sent the request to their State Executive in Brisbane to consider the release of our twelve fellow-workers.

The Industrial Council for Central Queensland will meet shortly, and will stand by the men for sure.

A big mass demonstration will be held at Mount Morgan next Friday night, and Fellow-Worker Jackson will outline the position of "The I.W.W. and what it stands for," and has wired you to send along at once 200 of those papers that cause the bosses to have so many restless nights.

Fellow-Worker Hugh Clark, of Mount Morgan, has petitioned to you the proceeds of collection. All hail the One Big Union, and release of our fellow-workers.

W. J.

IN PROTEST.

At a meeting of the Shavarna Miners' Delegates Board on Friday the following resolution was carried:—

"That this board emphatically protests

Gaol'd.

For How Long?

FELLOWWORKERS!
YOU KNOW THAT SOCIETY IS DIVIDED INTO TWO ECONOMIC CLASSES—A SMALL CLASS THAT DOES NOTHING USEFUL, YET HAS ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE, AND A LARGE CLASS THAT DOES ALL THE WORK, BUT HAS NOTHING WORTH WHILE!

AND YOU KNOW THAT BETWEEN THESE TWO CLASSES AN ECONOMIC STRUGGLE IS EVER IN PROGRESS, AND THAT THE GOALING OF WORKING CLASS AGITATORS IS A PHASE OF THE STRUGGLE!

DO YOU THINK IT RIGHT, THEN, THAT THE WORKING CLASS SHOULD DO NOTHING TO SAVE ITS AGITATORS FROM THE RULING CLASS!

THIRTY MILITANT MEMBERS OF OUR CLASS ARE AT PRESENT IN PRISONS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH AND NEW ZEALAND, FOR SPEAKING UNPLEASANT TRUTHS ABOUT THE SOCIAL SYSTEM.

GRATEFUL, CONSCIOUS WORKERS CAN NOT DESERT THESE MEN, THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT IS TOO HEAVILY INDEBTED TO MILITANT PROPAGANDISTS—PAST AND PRESENT—TO DREAM OF SUCH TREACHERY.

THE MEN ARE LOOKING TO THEIR CLASS FOR HELP! THEY ARE WONDERING WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO, AND WAITING FOR YOU TO "GET A MOVE ON."

Imagine that this is going to be done by John Hops.

—"Bulletin"

Misguided they are, of course, and all that; but how the enthusiasm of these I.W.W. people shames Liberals and Laborites! The law has nabbed the chief of its leaders and speakers, but their places have been taken by others. Cost reaching four figures have been incurred in the defence of various members, and the money is being found by the mostly poor members. The continuation of books and machinery threatened the extinction of "Direct Action," but except for one week the paper has come out regularly and new machinery is being secured. In spite of a whole avalanche of troubles in fact, the organization is at its old stand, and it has undertaken to provide for the dependents of the members who are gaol'd.

—"Bulletin"

APPEALS.

J. B. King, recently sentenced to three years in connection with his bank note forgeries was successful in his appeal against the conviction. The Appeals Court quashed the conviction on the grounds that the chief witness against him appeared to be an accomplice deeply concerned in the operation. A new trial was ordered.

Donald Grant, Peter Larkin and Charlie Reeve appealed against the sentences imposed on them in the abusive language charges. Grant's appeal was upheld, and the conviction set aside. The convictions of Larkin and Reeve, on two charges each, were upheld, and they have, therefore, to go to gaol for nine months and seven months respectively.

Our inequality materialises our upper class, vulgarises our middle class, brutalises our lower class.—Matthew Arnold.

EDITORIAL.

The Editor of this paper is now A. Mack, who edited also Nos. 99 and 100.

As Others See Us.

"If I had to choose between expounding the detractions of the Industrial Workers of the World, and following those who would abolish trial by jury, freedom of speech, and the sanctity of the home, I would be with the revolutionaries all the time. The revolutionary is working for an objective, which may be visionary, but I believe that the objective of the Industrial Workers of the World is attainable, and that it is sought to give to the many the privileges now enjoyed only by a few."

B. D. MEAGHER, M.L.A., in "Hazard," 10th Dec, 1909.

Justice Pring having made some very fierce remarks about the I.W.W. and recommended that "strong and drastic steps" be taken to root it out, the Helms Government has proceeded to frame some new regulations—which is to say, some new crimes. The "roosting" of the I.W.W. so far as its activities extend to the control of news and the distribution of a denunciated literature, is by any means business. But eradication of the ideas that are the foundation of this brotherhood's existence is another proposition, and it is only the foolish man who

Shearers and Shed Workers.

A MEETING of Shearers and Shed Workers will be held in THE TRADES HALL, ROOM 24, FRIDAY, 29th DECEMBER, at 8

p.m., to discuss the late shearing dispute, Committee business, and other business the Meeting may decide.

ADMISSION BY A.W.U. TICKET.

F. T. McMANUS.

THE GAOL ARGUMENT.

Funds are very necessary in this FIGHT FOR THE LIVES of our class brothers.

FELLOWWORKERS! IT IS UP TO YOU! GET BUSY AND KEEP BUSY IN YOUR UNION HALLS AND LEAGUES. Keep the workers alert to the danger that threatens. Arrange monster protests, agitate and organize unceasingly and forward unlimited funds for the defence to:

J. R. WILSON.

Box 38, Haymarket P.O., Sydney.

News and Notes.

Sir William Callen is stated to have described the Tottenham murder as the most callous and cruel in the annals of Australian crimes.

We hear the same comment upon all murders, and it appears to be used to attempt to justify the legal murder which is likely to follow.

We hold no brief for murderers, and we consider all murderers brutal, but how low planned and executed within a few minutes can compare for cold-bloodedness and cruelty with a legal murder planned months ahead we cannot see nor do we understand why a public officer or a group of public officers who premeditate a murder should claim superiority over a person who does so in his own killing.

In our opinion the official who orders the murder is quite as guilty of it as the hangerman.

The man who kills in hot blood under the momentary influence of some real or imaginary wrong is a superior individual to the one who premeditates and plans a crime weeks ahead, and he is certainly far more manly than the one who premeditates it for months and then hides his bloody hands behind the cloak of legality.

The Chief Secretary has decided to make available the usual grant of £1800 to be distributed among 65 benevolent institutions about the city in order to give the "poor" a Merry Christmas.

So the Government does recognise that there are poor about the city! What a merry time they will have with that £1800! Fancy a "big feast" once a year! "The world living a whole year through dirt, disease and poverty to enjoy it! No wonder we claim to be the freest and best country on earth; how wealthy we must be when we can support 65 poverty asylums in one city! And how few we are! Yes, how few are these thousands of human wretches to starve for a year at a stretch!

The I.W.W. preamble states "there can be no meaning there SHOULD be—so peace so long as thousands are living in poverty and a few have all the good things of life."

Perhaps the judge who said he did not agree with that was right; perhaps he knows there can be peace so long as we give the poor a feast at Christmas.

—"

"Moulders"

are still out on strike. They have been out for some months, but the employers now want them to go back to work unconditionally.

While we can admire the moulders for their pluck and their staying power, we cannot admire them for their industrial science. The attempt to starve the boss into submission with a whole year of dirt, disease and poverty is beyond a joke; it is an old craft tactic, useful, no doubt, in the days of small business, but in the days of small business have gone, and with them should have passed away the small strike, the strike that starves the workers into the job.

These are the days of big capital, and they should also be the days of big unions.

Instead the workers learn to fight with the modern weapon of the industrial union; they may look out for defeat, defeat and disaster.

According to the "Sun," the Crown intends to institute proceedings against the printer, publisher and proprietors of the "Worker" for contempt of court, for publishing certain comments on the I.W.W. cases under the heading "The Case for Grant."

It appears that the laws of the country are not for use against the I.W.W., and any others who dare to criticize the high-handed despotism of our Coalition Government.

All the capitalist dailies and several leading capitalist publications carried on weeks of slanders against the I.W.W., who beyond the conspiracy charges were sub-judice, but no action for contempt of court was brought against them.

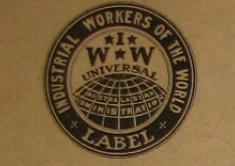
Talk about daylight savings!

Who, thinking people will soon be of the opinion we are saving centuries for the hands of the clock of progress have gone back about 500 years.

Direct Action

On with the Man Hunt.

Killing Ideas.



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.

Terrorism.

The New South Wales Cabinet, after long, learned discussion and close investigation of the I.W.W., its membership, principles and methods, declined to write us down as a criminal organisation. We are perfectly right, therefore, we suppose, in claiming not to be a criminal organisation. We have as much legal right to exist in the community as has any of the organisations whose problems were never in doubt, or whose criminal tendencies were never discussed.

Reasoning onward from this foundation, we, as individuals, ought to have as much freedom in our private lives as members of any other organisation. Our members should be as free to enjoy themselves as others are; they should be as free to decide where and for whom they will work as others are. Petty police annoyance and interference should be as absent from our private lives as it is from the lives of other members of the community.

That is what we believe, but it is not what the police or detective department is prepared to allow. Although the Government refused to declare the I.W.W. an illegal or a criminal association, the detective have declared it such, and are carrying on a campaign of police terrorism against members of the organisation that will paralyse anything of the same nature perpetrated by police agents in America or Russia.

We want to know whose is the authority on which the detectives are acting when they visit business places and laundries and condemn as criminals, employees—male or female—who are known to be members of the I.W.W.

It looks like an insidious detective ruse to have members thrown out of employment, perhaps so that cheap paper choppers may be gained by arresting them on the "vag."

If this is the sin, the detective force has given into a positive menace to the people of this country, and the sooner a complete cleaning out of undesirables from their ranks is made the better it will be for the community at large. This petty police persecution of individuals will have to stop, the working class are growing heartily sick of it, and if it doesn't stop will see the industrial working class well on the way to taking vengeance.

CRIMINALS.

The eight fellow-workers committed for trial at Perth on the conspiracy charge were sentenced to imprisonment for two years, but are to be released on their undertaking two sureties of £25 each, to be of good behavior for the two years.

Fellow-Worker Norman Baxendale, while speaking from our stand in the Dundas East Show, got so mad he "kicked" his "pence" out into the Law Courts, press men were duty bound to flinch, and then proceed to feel dirty.

We are charged with insulting the police, found guilty, and bound over in arrears £30. To be of good behavior for 12 months, but not to get into 12 months.

An attempt was made to entrap him on charges of burglary, vagrancy, and petty larceny, but he, and Baxendale, again ready for a charge towards Freedom.

"In spite of the ever busy hangman, and the policeman on every corner, crime increases at an appalling rate in Great Britain, and some solemn ass in the Home Secretary's office has been asked to find out why. He now announces to an uninformed race the reason. It is because there is not sufficient severity in dealing with criminals, because the sentences are too light, because the right system has been relaxed and because the public shows a sentimental sympathy for law-breakers. In a country where a man is arrested on Monday, confined on Tuesday and slammed into a prison cell, there is no doubt that there will be any official lenity towards law-breakers; at least not so that you could notice it. The British idea is that for every crime committed somebody must be punished good and hard. It is only when the right person seems from the records to be a minor consideration; also, to judge from recent illustrations, whether the crime has been established. Just punish somebody; that is the idea, and punish him to the limit."

There is no other country in the world in which the administration of criminal justice is so swift and inexorable. There are few countries where the whole legal machinery is so powerfully organised against the accused.

Now it appears that in spite of this savage severity crime steadily increases, and the solemn asses in the Home Office blame the increase to lenity.

How would it do for these tall observers to take a trip through Steeply and Whitechapel before they come to an opinion on a subject so momentous.

I think they would see some things there that would instruct them. From that they would see that crime is rampant and poisoned humanity what would they naturally expect to issue but crime!

For years the alienists have been calling attention (usually in vain) to the rapid increase of insanity and degeneracy among these unfortunate millions. If there is anybody in the Home Office who so much as a spoonful of brains he must know what this means in its relation to crime statistics.

Of course crime increases. It increases not alone in London, but in every other city where the slum cloud broods and darkness. It is part of the inevitable penalty for maintaining slums, just as tuberculosis, and the tubercle bacillus and cholera and typhoid and rickets and racial decay are other parts of the same penalty.

If you don't like the result you ought not to like the cause.

Punishment never discouraged crime nor prevented it. If there is any lesson in history that is indubitable it is that crime is the product of social conditions and that the only way social conditions are improved. Punishment is all a blunder. It never did any good and always worked infinite ill.

When they used to hang pirates and highwaymen every day piracy and highway robbery were common pursuits. It thought everybody knew this, but it appears that the Home Secretary's Office of Great Britain is still unlightened. If still believes in the gallows and plenty of it.

The punishment mania are a queer lot. First, they say that punishment is necessary in order that other criminals may be frightened and deterred. If that is so, then the more terrible we can make the punishments the more effective they will be in frightening and deterring. The methods of our revolt should rest at once to the methods of our ancestors. Certain and high-pitched nothing in the way of punishment so terrible as the Iron Maiden, or breaking on the wheel, or the stocks.

If we establish these splendid insulators, and since punishment is so necessary it is to administer it in public.

Rarely it met a great error to have hangings in secret. Let the hangings be done where the public could see them; let all the world see that the wicked may be terrified and the virtuous inspired.

No more lenity. Let us put everybody into the same old dope and the sure only five or six men in the world are worthy, whose perfect innocence entitles them to live. In one of them is the office of the Home Secretary. Let Great Britain hang as she dwells in a cave and cracks while I wait with my teeth.

While I wait, the subject of the administration of the criminal law (so much

admired of our own cave dwellers), I am reminded of a little incident that once fell under my own observation.

In 1896 a young woman that lived in the Spitalfield's slums married against her parents' consent. The young man she married was worthless; the young man she married in such conditions are worthless. When her baby was born the deserted her.

She came back to the wretched hovel where her parents lived. Her father refused to see her. Her mother turned her adrift with a sixpence.

She spent the sixpence for a small bottle of milk and a paper of biscuits. Carrying these and her baby she wandered through the streets, forever sitting down to rest and forever being moved on by a policeman.

So long as the milk lasted she fed it to the baby, moistening the biscuits in it and holding them to the baby's lips. When the milk had all gone she moistened biscuits in her own mother's feed-them to the baby, moistening the biscuits in it and holding them to the baby's lips.

About the third day, it must have been, after her mother had turned her adrift, she wandered into a square, well toward the West End. She remembered the square, as she remembered sitting down upon a bench with the baby still in her arms. The next thing she knew she was in a police station. She had been found lying on the bench with the baby under her. The baby was dead.

She was charged with murder, and arraigned.

She had been arrested on a Friday, she was tried on the following Wednesday and sentenced to be hanged two weeks from that day. She had been found guilty of murder with the baby still in her arms.

To the court the case seemed clear enough. The baby was found dead under its mother. Well, of course, the mother had smothered it. That was the usual way of cases, she was of the class that deserved no consideration, anyway. To the gallows with her.

So they sentenced that wretched, tall-faced, chink-boned thing to be hanged by the neck until dead, that justice would be vindicated and law-breakers appalled. And they sent her two weeks to prepare for this invaluable and necessary service to society.

The Home Secretary commuted her sentence to imprisonment for life.

It is therefore, a pity to see exactly wherein the English system of justice errs on the side of lenity. I don't see how it could be more severe, unless it chopped off the head of every offender as soon as he was arrested. If crime increases in a country that has the severest criminal code on earth there must be some other cause than lack of severity.

I suppose this fact would be quite apparent to anybody except a Home Secretary.

Still, I don't know that he is essentially duller than our own charitable rich that give money to the warfare upon tuberculosis and ardently support the system that produces tuberculosis, or duller than that man that denounce war and create it.

The world grows better in spite of Home Secretaries, temporary reformers, rogues, loafers and cave dwellers. We are not so savage as our ancestors. Read the accounts of old prisons and old executions and see if there is no gain to be made.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century there were 137 capital offences in England, and the gallows was shown daily to busy victims.

Any man, innocent or guilty, that came within the peril of the law gave himself up for lost. None but Home Secretaries and Cave Dwellers lament the passing of such conditions. Readily the world moves on. Many of these primitive movements and agitations prove the advance of the race toward the inevitable truth that punishment is always a blunder; that society has the right to punish those that society fails, but only to help and to restore them.

Look for a day when there will be no prison, no gallows, no hangman, no executioner. I wrote Charles Dickens that "useless." He might have said exactly the same thing if I had.

Every jail that I ever, who we imprison an assembly of crime. The more people we have the more crime. If this divine truth and mangled on to be maintained to be hung up in the "bull ring" or tortured in the dark chamber.

I have known, and I have every shade and degree, and I have yet to find

Man is only capable of rectifying his mistakes by experience and discussion, not by experience alone. There must be discussion to show how experience is to be interpreted.

Wrong opinions and wrong practices gradually yield to facts and arguments to produce any effect on the mind, fact and argument must be brought before it.

Rulers and others who are accustomed to unlimited freedom, usually feel a complete confidence in their own opinions. People more happily situated, who sometimes hear their own opinions disputed and are used to being set right when they are wrong, place the same unbounded reliance only on such of their opinions as are supported by those surrounding them. In proportion to a man's want of confidence in his own judgment he usually places implicit trust in the infallibility of the world in general—the world to each individual being that part of it with which he is connected by his own opinions, his church, his class.

The only way in which the human mind can make some approach to perfection is by studying it from every point of view. No man ever acquired wisdom by any other method. Since its creation the O.B.U. has had standing invitation to all and sundry to dispute by debate, etc., that the industrial union will be more effective than craft unionism in combating the conditions the workers are and will be faced with.

The invitation was accepted, but very little public debate was indulged in.

All the agents of reaction were arrayed against the industrial union doctrines and still the idea spread and permeated the world.

As a last resource the Parliament decided that the working class are not capable of choosing what sort of organisation they should belong to or what class of literature they should read, and consequently that is being decided for them.

On no account must they be allowed to try to do for themselves, or to try to do for their own, or to try to do for their own, or to try to do for their own, or to try to do for their own, or to try to do for their own, or to try to do for their own.

But, whatever honours may be professed for or even paid to the alleged support of mental life of Hughes, Cook and Co., the general tendencies of social evolution and of adaptation to a changed environment cannot be stopped by them.

Legislation will not put down the idea of men when force of economic circumstances gives birth to those ideas. The enthusiasm, and knowledge, on the subject of industrial unionism, possessed by individual members who, by discussion in the fields, factories and workshops could be mental life, and the necessity for industrial unions, will, later on, prevail conclusively that ideas cannot be stamped out by an Act of Parliament.

—ANON.

MARK TWAIN ON "CLASSES."

There are wise people who talk ever so knowledge and confidently about "the working class," and simply themselves that a day's hard intellectual work is very much harder than a day's hard manual toil, and is rightfully entitled to much bigger pay. Why, they really think that, you know, it because they are so much about the one, but haven't tried the other. But I am so well satisfied, and so far as I am concerned, there isn't need to annoy to hire me to swing a pickaxe for thirty days, but I will do the hardest kind of intellectual work for just as near nothing as you can cipher it down—and I will be satisfied too.—Mark Twain.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

All articles for publication should be sent to the Editor of this paper, and owing to our increased space and the necessity for concentrating on the compulsory cases, should be of not more than six or seven hundred words.

WANTED

A file of Volume I of "Direct Action" is wanted at this office. Forward price of same.

one in whom there was not plenty of good.

The idea of the punishment mania is to reach out that good, that society may be avenged upon the wrongdoers itself has created.

A man must have a curious kind of a mind that can defend such a doctrine, and let us have done with the whole dressed-up business. We have murderers and burglars behind our prison walls and barred windows. This is a good time to protest against murdering any more."

CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL.

Work and Play.

An Indictment. THE NIGHTMARE OF BRUTE GOVERNMENT.

National Union of Transport Workers

For something like a hundred thousand years the naturalists, and anthropologists, the sociologists and ethnologists and a lot of other "guinea" tell us, man lived in a state of happy ease. He lived in the lap of a forest, in "glades" tall shelters, in caves and gougons; he loved widely and freely; he fished in the rivers and found sustenance also in fruits, nuts, berries, and in the hunting grounds. Only recently in the life of the human race, they tell us, has man overcome his natural inclinations and concentrated his attention upon WORK.

And he has set about working with all the aversive thousands of years of pleasure hunting and looting ancestors have wrought in his natural tendencies. Necessity has compelled him to fix his roving attention, to limit his playful moods, to restrict his freedom and to get down to the misery of sowing, reaping, and sowing and building, of continuing his old bird life in the dank walls of great office buildings, adding up endless columns of horrible figures. Schiller declares that man is only fully human when he is at play.

Yet our tendency is to work, and we hope it will always endure, for man to throw off the burden of work at the sound of the whistle at five o'clock, or six o'clock, or whatever o'clock the blessed signal of release means—and revert to his original nature and PLAY.

When men or women leave an office, a factory or mill in which they have violated all their natural instincts for eight or nine hours, they want recreation, light, music, good food, dancing, the theatre—in fact, they want to relax and play. They desire something that does not require their tight attention, concentrated thought or effort.

And this is why the seats of our lecture halls are so packed; why the theatres put on the Standing Room Only signs; why the libraries are never worked to their capacity and the saloons and music halls, the cabaret, dance halls and saloons are often jammed to the doors.

The man or woman who lives at six or eight o'clock, goes to work at seven or eight, returns home a supper at five, or at six, and all evening over three hundred days in the year is no longer a human being. He is a MACHINE.

A man LIVES according to the experiences he enjoys, the things that set out, the things he does. Doing the same thing over and over again is not living. It is HABIT.

Man's chief superiority over the other animals is in his ability to respond to a greater variety of ways of stimuli, and may respond to nearly the same set of conditions in a hundred different ways upon a hundred different occasions. He is attracted and repelled by a hundred different things; he has a thousand impulses to go, to move, to think, to feel, to smile, a whole world of things to think about.

But to the large percentage of men and women these opportunities are closed. For a man to live the life under his feet—and the earth has been grabbed from him, and charge RENT for permission to live upon the land. You must have money to pay rent, Likewise a man must have food to live, and the proprietors must learn to buy, neither has money to buy food; neither has clothing—and clothing also requires money from empty hands.

The average man possesses nothing and so he must sell his brain and his hands and get money to pay rent, and buy food and clothing. And when he has done, over and over again, day in and day out, the same things in the same way, for several years, all his instincts for play drift from the factory, not to books and lectures, and a study of how to better his conditions, but to—PLAY.

To organists want to remember this. They must be able to sing, to play, to dance, to learn with their learned speeches; they want to learn to mix music and song and dancing with new ideas and books and lectures. The proprietors must learn to attract man through his play instincts; then they cannot catch him by solemn ideas.

—International Socialist Review—

One-half of the venomous spite of William Morison has been a long time found an outlet in his most insidious attacks on the I.W.W. organisation. No greater tribute could be paid to the heroic actions of the members of this organisation who have so bravely stood up against all the forces of oppression.

It is a long time the workers of Australia should realise the immense debt of gratitude they owe to the staunch leaders of the I.W.W., who are at present suffering persecution because their straight aheadness in the way of their frustrated attempts of our political tyrants to shackle the people of Australia.

The extreme form of military and industrial conscription has not yet been imposed upon the workers of this country. Whom of the merit? Not the Labor politicians who have turned and twisted to follow the direction the blow. Not the craft unionist who is always prepared to attack his own fellow-workers in the most insatiable of his political and industrial biases. It is due to the I.W.W. alone that the workers have put up whatever fight they have put up so far. It is due to the persistent agitation of the I.W.W. officials, who have pointed out—alone among all the rest of the politicians—uselessness of trusting politicians, that the politicians of Australia have not yet sold the workers' souls and commiserated their bodies. It may appear to some that this is a rather exaggerated claim. Yet, before the review is passed aside, it might be well to review the position in Australia today. The recent coal strike in New South Wales was the only strike carried through with a show of solidarity among the workers lately. The only section of coal miners who carried the banner of Australia, where the I.W.W. is still weak and its doctrines practically unknown. Again, the anti-conscription party was strongest in New South Wales, the home of the I.W.W., and weakest in the rest of the continent—Australia. The solidarity shown in the coal strike with such commendable results should teach the workers of Australia that where all other men fail, the workers have still one weapon left.

And now many of the strongest and most fearless working-class advocates of Australia are in gaol. Workers, what are you going to do about it? Have they saved you and sacrificed their liberty only to be forgotten in the hideous obscurity of the dungeons of the "powers of darkness"? Workers! Every day you breathe the glorious free air of heaven never forget the men who are suffering because they are in your way, and do not forget they are liberated. Do you believe the silly booby of seditious conspiracy! Has ever such an imaginary crime as seditious conspiracy had any existence in working class circles? It is all a fiction in the capitalist armory which has at all times in the history been used to stifle the voice of the people when every other vile trick of capitalist authority proved of no avail.

M. CHRISTOPHERSON

A SHORTER WORK DAY.

Right down through History it has been the plan of the exploiting class to keep the standard of living down to the lowest possible point, and how far they have succeeded the present conditions only too plainly show. Working long hours and working at a pace that kills, simply slays to the machine and die off before the work is done. The masters craftily catch the average age of 32 or 35 and force them to work until they are longer. Now these conditions can be altered by reducing the hours of labour. The point and long, or more when we work hard, and not too fast. When we work hard and fast, we as a class receive less. We make the competition for jobs keen. There is more of our race fit for the unemployed ranks. We as a class receive less for longer hours of shorter work day. A six hour day would oblige 25 per cent of the unemployed that would mean less competition for jobs. Labour would be scarce, you would get higher wages, have more time to yourselves, more time to read and think.

Your brain would be in a better condition to study and retain what you had learned. You would be better off any way you like to look at our race fit for the unemployed ranks. The worker nearer to the state emancipation. The workers will get a shorter work day when they organise their forces on the Industrial Union basis. Six to eight hours a day have not set the power to take. Education and solidarity is the hope of the workers. Nothing else counts. Get in touch with the I.W.W.

WM. HOGAN.

The transport industry is a very important one in the industrial world today.—holding as it does the key to the interchange of the world's products, between the different countries; as well as being the chief contribution to the wealth in each country's boundaries. Closely allied to it is the means of communication, and under the scheme of organisation advocated by the I.W.W. it is proposed to form them into the Department of Transport and Communication. In Australia today this section of the working class is in a sad state of disorganisation, making it almost impossible, because of the divisions in their ranks for them to act concertedly on any occasion. Moreover through their submission to the Arbitration Court and its detours they renounce the splendid strategical advantage that they hold. The Waterside Workers' Federation of Australia may be taken as the most militant body connected with the transportation industry in Australia; and yet they have demonstrated on numerous occasions that they do not understand nor appreciate the power. In spite of the machinery and machinations of their officials the Water Workers have on many occasions given proof of their power, but lacking the all important economic knowledge and solidarity necessary to complete success, have accepted much less than they are entitled to.

Quite recently in 1913 we had the sorry spectacle of seeing the wharves and scannors of Australia refusing, or at least, not extending moral or financial support to the men connected with the same industry in New Zealand, when they were attacked by the wharf shipping masters over there, although they instinctively felt that it was their duty. On that occasion the arch-traitor of Labor, W. M. Hughes, succeeded in side-tracking the wharves to the Water Workers, when they thought that the fight of the New Zealand men was no concern of theirs. Soon afterwards he manifested his great love for Labor by betraying the union that he claims to have given his life to, and by building—succeeding in depriving them of half the fruits of victory. I refer to the attempt made in 1914 to gain an increase of wages; it may be well here to draw attention to the power possessed by the Federation at that time, and the clear identity of the means adopted with the methods of the I.W.W. It was decided by a cease-work meeting of members that there would be no overtime worked until the Federation at that time, and the solidarity of the members was conceded—although they were referred to by the Press as "Lazy Shirkers"; and told by Hughes that they were "unreasonable" and "not in an majority rule," etc. They kept the strike going for a fortnight. Then, at the time when the bosses were racking their brains about what should be done next, Hughes, Morgan and other leaders thought it was time to display how they loved Labor, and they hypothesized the wharves into allowing another friend of Labor, Higgins, to arbitrate between them and the shipping ring, when the struggle would be almost gaining them their full demands, the result gained was half of what was justly theirs.

Numerous instances of treachery on the part of officials, and proofs of the antiquated form of organisation now prevailing in the transport industry could be cited, but my purpose is not so much to point the follies of the past, as to show the need for, and lines upon which to lay the foundation of a new structure of the new virile and militant transport workers' organisation of the future.

Within the ramifications of this industry today, there are, already, with many more soon to be added, trades which, by reason of the craft form of unionism continued when the craft becomes lost or swallowed in the industry, cause demarcation trouble between the workers.

Thus we have such aristocrats of Labor, as engineers, boiler-makers, plumbers, shipwrights, etc., quarrelling about who puts the loss at the least advantage to the workers, and in the European countries, even waster to do. All craft distinctions in the New Unionism must be relegated to the limbo of forgotten things—a new order of things. The workers of the world must be acquired, we must have an broader vision towards the industrial area and think and act, not as members of a petty little clique in the work of a craft of a modern industry. For facilitating the business of the proposed new union, it would probably be found necessary to form national industrial unions of rail way workers, tramwaymen, carters, wharf

laborers, marine transport workers (which would include all seamen) and a national industrial union of all postal workers; those could be linked up by means of a council composed of delegates from each national union, which would form the transport body of the department of the transport industry. It may be necessary to explain that such a national union would have its local union connected to the requirements of distance and convenience, and also branches in working central districts. The number of workers employed, or other conditions warranted.

Such a form of organisation combined with a recognition of the struggle between the workers and their economic masters, and the outcome revolutionary principles arising from that knowledge, could not fail to effectively resist any attempted encroachment on the standard of life desired by the workers so organised.

Compare for a moment the difference between the unionist today, who has to enter another world to pay a transfer fee to enter another union, with the same union, and in all cases, as a result, to enter any of the numerous little tin-pot unions that now operate in the transport industry, with a member of an industrial union, who is not only able to transfer freely to any other union in the industrial union, but is also a free-lance, both nationally and internationally, as far as being a unionist is concerned.

Having become a member of a union once he is always a union man, provided he is not expelled, and he has to pay a quittance which is the same as the fee of the I.W.W., is kept at the least possible level in keeping with the proper administration of the organisation. Thus we establish one of the most detestable phases of the exploitation of the worker, the final need of joining and supporting a multiplicity of unions, which have led many to curse the presence of them—and is in itself the cause of much seabury and discontent.

Come, let us get busy, the need for a better unionism is urgent. Soon the obsolete relics we call trade unions will be kicked and shattered by the industrially organised and trusted master class. They are unshakable, unyielding, unmovable, unjunctive; charging men with treason, and holding threats over the head of anyone who dares to mention it—all for a purpose—to enable them to intensify the exploitation of the workers.

Another most fruitful and infectious sea-breeding scheme is that vile thing known as the superannuation fund, its operation with the railway workers, throughout Australia. Workers should be aware of all subtle ways of being led to be traitors to their class, instead of being faithful, obedient slaves for a lifetime to reap a reward which only equals a pauper's pittance when old age or some other calamity befalls the old and fighters in a class organisation, insure adequate provision for old age, and the proper care of those who meet with accidents.

You men of the transport industry, what are you going to do about it? Are you going to support, and submit to organisations that cannot defend your interests,—which is much less than asking them to attack the conventional, legitimised form of organisation now prevailing in your industry? Are you going to transport the larger portion of the produce of Australia away, while you have to pay ever increasing prices out of proportion to your wages, and your own health?

Realise your power, in other words, get up off your knees—if not—if you refuse to read the signs of the times, and profit by them, you will go down to a dark and dismal defeat, and all because of your adherence to a decadent stolid, ignorant form of organisation known as trade unionism. The time is ripe now to lay the foundation of the new social organisation, secure as we are satisfied that we have built the powerful and imposing structure, embracing all workers engaged in transportation communication, with the object of uniting the workers of the world, the distribution of the good things of life for our class.

WAGE WORKER

There is ONLY one Union. The CLASS UNION. Within the ranks of workers in a worker in industry. There is NO feeling, save the exploit. The abolition of the wage system is inevitable. Therefore, working men and women, secure as we are satisfied that we have built the powerful and imposing structure, embracing all workers engaged in transportation communication, with the object of uniting the workers of the world, the distribution of the good things of life for our class.

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