



VOL. 2. NO. 53.

Registered at G.P.O. Sydney. SYDNEY, JANUARY 15, 1916.

ONE PENNY

## The Power of the Strike.

(By F.H.)

In a recent article on "War Workshops," a representative of the "Sydney Sun" makes a remarkable admission about the power of the strike, referring to the "patriotism and self-sacrifice" of those semiskilled workers who have become munition-makers in the Midlands and north of England. The "Sun" correspondent says:—

**"TO THESE MEN THE EMPIRE OWES LASTING GRATITUDE. THEY BELONG TO GREAT AND POWERFUL UNIONS. THEY COULD ENSURE DEFEAT FOR THE EMPIRE BY MERELY STOPPING WORK."**

Though not concerned, just here, about the "patriotism and self-sacrifice" of the workers concerned, we may remark, in passing, that it is merely a negligible factor. Economic pressure, backed up by the police and the newly developed Industrial Conscript, being the real reason for keeping "hard at it."

The present writer was in England last summer when the South Wales miners ceased work, and thereby forced substantial gains from the greedy owners. During that crisis, the Cabinet, the military and naval authorities, and the ruling classes generally, were abating in their shoes; and the leading capitalist editors solemnly warned Britain that if the strike extended and lasted any length of time the war fleet and its auxiliaries would be paralysed. In other words that that colossal destructive organisation, THE BRITISH NAVY, WOULD BE RENDERED USELESS if only a comparatively small section of the working class STOPPED WORK for a brief period.

What tremendous significance and suggestion to the Workers of the World lies in these admissions, comes as they do from the press which takes such pains to tell us that the strike is out of date and should be discarded!

If 200,000 miners can threaten the supremacy of the British Navy, and greatly reduce the navy and army and reduce the efficiency of the half and the industrial activities backing it "by merely stopping work" what power would Labor wield if ALL the workers were industrially organized, not only in Britain but in all Europe and the rest of the World! They could compel a practical cessation of hostilities, and prevent the slaughter of workers, next to now raging in the Old World, in a very short time.

The primary object of industrial Unionism, however, is not to prevent war, but to put an end to the Capitalist System which engenders war and most other evils which curse humanity.

The industrial disturbances in Europe, under war conditions, have emphasized and brought home to us more than ever, the power of the strike. The ruling class realise this power and its press is occasionally forced to admit it. And the patriotic socialist, theorist as he may, may be obliged to admit that scientific economic organization of Labor is the only thing that really counts in any active phase of the class struggle. The future is for Revolutionary Industrial Unionism and the General



STREET-SPEAKING BY THE I.L.W. IS FORBIDDEN IN SYDNEY BY THE LABOR GOVERNMENT.

(Speaking at the last P.L.L. Conference, Mr. R. D. Meagher, M.L.A., Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, remarked that in circumstances where oppression becomes intolerable, assassination is justifiable.)

Strike, it is full of hope for the Working Class Movement, in spite of present clouds. The great events now taking place are clearing the way for a great advance of the Revolutionary Working Class. We have every reason to hope that the next decade will see the workers organizing industrially and internationally as they never knew how to organize before.

The Industrial Unionists — the I.L.W.—alone have a definite, clear-cut Working-Class programme. Let us push on, then, with the work of education and organization, banding ourselves together and building up the One Big Union, unit by unit, industry by industry, nationally and internationally, until we have a workable organization of such scope and power that the workers will be able, not only to threaten the Empire or prevent a war, but to ensure the defeat of the Capitalist class and the ending of wage-slavery.

### SHEARERS AND SHEHDHANS.

The following record was found in a shearing shed in the West of Queensland—

**DON'T GO OUT ON STRIKE!**  
Short pay, short work! Decrease profits and strike the contractor in the pocket-book. If your work expires carefully! Show twenty sheep well sooner than tomahawk 200 if

you start rushing you will very likely cut and maim the sheep. Don't allow sand and chips to get into your machine—it will run hot.

Don't run hot yourself rushing in to the pen for a catch. If your machine runs hot wrap a piece of cloth this does not cure it, see the expert. If you get overheated yourself be very careful to obey your physician's orders.

Don't allow the board to get dirty; sweep it up carefully. It takes time to do work properly as it should be done. If the wool tables are full, put your feet on the floor or anywhere the boss may direct. Try it down carefully, so that you can pick it up again.

Skirt every fleece carefully. Don't tear it off anyhow, as you have been doing or the boss will summons you for destruction of property. Pick all dags and second cuts out of all fleeces. If you do your work carefully it will take a long time to cut out.

If you get backache, cramps in the stomach, colds, or influenza, consult a doctor and go to bed until you are better!

Pick your pieces carefully. Don't "dump 'em." It's time to pick pieces properly.

Be a careful slave and you can win!

### NEW SOCIETY GAME.

The first of the new munition factories in the London area to be staffed by women was opened up last month. London "Standard" says that with the exception of skilled fitters to attend to the machines when they break down, a few temporary men to instruct the women, and the skilled staff of the auxiliary shops, the factory is entirely "manned" by women.

Society women "volunteers" have been undergoing a course of training to fit themselves for overlookers in the various departments, and they will assume full responsibility for supervising the work of the girls who are to feed the machines.

This item of news is interesting, in view of the number of times we have seen told by the capitalist press that caste and class prejudices should be cast aside during the war. The duty bells of society must not be allowed to staid their precious hands, and are given jobs as bosses over the common herd of females.

This is, of course, entirely as it should be, for the latter are driven into the munition factories from economic necessity, and therefore cannot choose their jobs, while the society butterflys go in for the business as a sort of relaxation from the monotony of bridge, balls and badminton.

## Lock-out at Broken Hill.

The following telegram appeared in the daily press on January 11th.—

**BROKEN HILL, Monday**—When the underground men presented themselves for work this morning, those who failed to go to work on Saturday afternoon were told they were discharged. The other underground men at once decided not to go below, and soon all were off the leas. South mine was unable to start its mill for want of ore, but the Proprietary had enough ore on hand to keep going until 9 o'clock this afternoon, while the Central had well filled bins, and was able to proceed as usual. The De Wray pit, which relies on tailings from South and North Mines, had to close down probably for a couple of days. None of the other mines were affected. The men affected number approximately 2200, in addition to 300 on the De Wray, and the mill hands on other mines.

At a largely attended meeting held at noon, resolutions were carried asking the A.M.A. to call out all its members at Broken Hill, Cockle Creek, and Port Pirie, and also asking their unions to call out all members engaged in the mining industry. A further motion was carried: "That the Amalgamated Society of Engineers should be asked to allow its members to support the dispute." The A.M.E. has called a mass meeting for tomorrow.

A later telegram states that the underground men refused to go below on the North mine this afternoon. As this mine was not working last Saturday afternoon, no one was dismissed, the reason for this step is difficult to understand.

In another part of this issue will be found particulars from a correspondent at Broken Hill as to the progress for the 44-hour week.

The I.L.W. has a number of men at the Hill involved in this fight, and as there is every indication of the struggle being protracted, an appeal is hereby made to all members throughout Australia for financial support.

All communications should be addressed to E. J. Riely, secretary I.L.W., South-street, Broken Hill, to the General Secretary, I.L.W., Box 28, Haymarket, Sydney, who will forward any contributions received.

A new local has made its appearance in Cairns, North Queensland, among the Russian workers there, and it seems that the new local will be strong and militant.

In another part of this issue it will be seen that the new local has already discussed the financing and starting of a Russian I.L.W. paper for the Russian workers here in Australia. Any one desiring subscription lists can obtain them from either Box 210 Cairns, or Box 58, Haymarket, N.S.W.

A few of our sub-editors are getting in good work nowadays. If anyone would be responsible for getting one such a month "Direct Action" would be able to enlarge the size of the bars to assist you in the business, send along your name and address and they are yours.

DIRECT ACTION



WEEKLY OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD. (Australian Administration).

Office:—320 Castlereagh St., Sydney, Australia.

Editor: Thos. Glynn. Manager: Tom Barker. Subscriptions: 4/ per year; New Zealand, 6/ per year; Foreign, 8/ per year.

HEADQUARTERS I.W.W. (Australia) 320 CASTLERAUGH ST., SYDNEY.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS: 154 W. Washington St., Chicago, U.S.A.

The Uses of Science.

According to 'Billy.'

Evidently Australian capitalists are waking up to the fact that they must be able to hold their own in the production of surplus value when the war is over if they are not to be ousted from the world's markets by more scientific competitors.

Labor Prime Minister Hughes would also appear to be exhibiting more shrewdness about the future of the appropriators of surplus value than about the present or future welfare of those who produce it. He has hitherto posed, and has been held up to the world as the champion of the so-called Labor movement, as the sworn foe of the big gun syndicates. Last week in Melbourne we find him convening a conference for the purpose of considering "the application of scientific research to the problems of industry."

The conference was well represented of all that stands for exploitation, and its perpetration in Australia. Such great "Friends of Labor" as Knox of the Sugar Company, Delprat, of the Broken Hill Proprietary Co., and the presidents of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Chambers of Manufacturers were there.

They must have compared notes on the advantages of a "Labor" Prime Minister over that of a mere Liberal when Billy got such sound capitalist chuck as the following of his chest:—

"Our great industries" (mark that) "our" primary and secondary, must be stimulated, "fed and aided" by scientific industrial research, and by wise laws, on a scale commensurate with their national importance and value."

And next: "Consideration must be given to investigation must be given particularly to the improvement of the quality of manufactures, to the reduction of the cost of production, and to the most economically possible, the utilization of waste material."

The professors from the various universities were present with their advice on the best means of reducing the cost of production, etc., or, in other words, saving labor power, and thereby raising the application of science to industry, but, from the report of the proceedings, none appeared so zealous in this regard as the senior of the working class, the great capitalist scientist and trust-buster—Billie Hughes.

The sincerity of Hughes' declaration

tions against trusts in the past may be judged from the following remark made in reply to some suggestions put forward by Knox, of the Sugar Trust, at the conference:— "The (Hughes) did not want to say more in reply to Mr. Knox than this: That had this nation done what the Colonial Sugar Company had done, it would have been in a better position today. That was the best tribute he could pay to the company."

So there you have it. The Sugar Trust has made its millions out of the sweat and blood of black and white labor—labor, in the former case, employed under conditions analogous to chattel slavery, and this is the ideal which a Labor Minister holds up for imitation by "the nation."

As long as "the nation," as represented by Hughes and those with whom he was associated in this conference, is allowed to utilize the achievements of science, for the accumulation and expansion of capital, the workers must expect to be looked upon as mere adjuncts to science for the production of surplus value.

Every scientific improvement in the method of production increases the power of capitalism, intensifies capitalist domination, and in the consequent displacement of hitherto necessary labor, makes the position of the working class more and more dependent upon the owners of the means of production.

Nobody knows this better than Knox, Delprat, and Co., unless it be Hughes himself. His Referendum stunts and his trust busting heroics in the past were factors in throwing dust in the eyes of the workers who for a quarter of a century have been looking towards Hughes and other leaders to show them the way out of wage-slavery. Now that Hughes and his colleagues are placed securely on the plane of economic independence, they make no concealment of the fact that their purpose is not to fight capitalism in Australia, but to increase its power and extend the influence of its competition in the world's markets.

But the workers are beginning to learn from the experience of their fellow-workers in America, Germany and the up-to-date capitalist countries, that the application of scientific research to the problems of industry" does not go hand in hand with their economic well-being, but, on the contrary, runs counter to it.

This conference, however, if intelligently regarded, should be a warning to the workers for several reasons. It shows that the so-called Labor party is hand in glove with the arch-enemies of labor. It reveals the conspiracy, conscious or unconscious, which is being hatched by the capitalist class and their political and professional henchmen, to extract the last ounce of surplus value from the worker's side in the name of "Industrial Efficiency" without regard to his status as a human being in society, and if once more drives home the lesson that the workers must rely upon themselves in the struggles of the future against capitalist exploitation.

The capitalist class, and the politicians and professors who are prostituting their brains in capricious interests, will yet have to learn at the hands of an organised working class that science was not specially created by the Almighty hand of God for the production of surplus value, but, rather, the almighty hand of labor should raise it for the promotion of human welfare.

T.G.

Every copy of "Direct Action" sold is a kick at the boss. Get your copy.

SYDNEY LOCAL

MEETING at Street Propaganda at Rathurst and Liverpool Streets Every Friday and Saturday Evening, at 8 p.m.; also Sunday Evenings, at 7.

Meetings in Hall. Sunday, 8 p.m., Propaganda. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Economic Class. Thursday, 8 p.m., Business Meeting. Also, Public Meeting Every Sunday Afternoon in the Domain.

Sound The Alarm.

Time after time, during the dark and bloody struggles of the workers through the ages, the cowardice and treachery of the workers' leaders have turned victory into defeat. It was the case with the plebeians of ancient Rome; it was the case with the workers of the Middle Ages. It is the case to-day.

The workers combine. They make infinite sacrifices. They strike and starve and endure innumerable privations and martyrdoms, in order to build up powerful organisations. They contribute money—which to them represents blood and sweat poured out in industrial infamy, so as to keep the organisations intact. Then they take men from their own class, give them positions of power and importance, put them at the head of their organisations, and enable them to live better than their fellows. These officials and leaders mix with the representatives of the ruling class. Their outlook insensibly changes. And then, at the critical time, right on the eve of success, these men betray their trust, and deliver their comrades to the cruelty of Treachery.

If we critically examine the actions of the leaders of the Trade Union and Labor Movement since the outbreak of war we are inevitably forced to conclude that they are being led by the guilty of the grossest treachery and cowardice. Instead of serving their class they have betrayed it. Instead of voicing the demands of the workers they have used their power and influence to stifle and suppress the workers in the interest of the masters.

Compare the position of the Trade Union now with what it was previous to the war. Compare the conditions under which we live to-day with those existing before the ghastly struggle commenced.

The Trade Unions are bound hand and foot by legal enactments. Trade Union rules and rights no longer exist. Trade Unions are being fined and imprisoned all over the country for the most trivial offences. And all this is not only agreed to but condoned and encouraged by the Trade Union leaders. It seems unbelievable, but it is only too true.

Thus as to the condition of the workers. At the outbreak of war the Parliamentary representatives of the capitalist expected the Labor Party to make a bid for improved conditions for their class. But the Labor members failed to grasp the situation and weakly acquiesced to everything the Government proposed. Since then innumerable opportunities have been given them of making the authorities deal with the food and coal supply in an effective manner, and of reducing the economic drain upon the workers. But they have been fooling around with anything and everything except matters of vital interest to the workers.

Flattery and "Perks." It is not that these men do not know better. It is not that they are unaware of the true position. They know perfectly well what is expected of them; but a little flattery, a few "perks," and a certain amount of capitalistic publicity causes them to forget to play the part of Judas. They do not even sell their souls; they give themselves away. Not only themselves—which would be nothing very awful—but the rest of their class as well. So far through the dreary months of the war they have assisted in the burial of working-class hopes and aspirations. At the present time there are quite a number of them ready to join in the bowl for conscription. They will realise that conscription would destroy, for generations, all chances of social class improvement. They are under no illusions as to the reasons why people like Milner, Northcliffe, and Curzon are agitating for conscription. But with or without a price they are willing to join the well-paid "provident" club, to make them economically safe and fatter their insatiable vanity. They do not time the rank and file took stock of the workers with the movement and put them out of harm's way?

MARAT, in London "Solidarity."

A Pleasant Visit To The Nether World.

A moaning wind blew fitfully, and caused a gloomy atmosphere. Unearthly music on that dismal shore, As 'neath a gloomy cypress shade I gazed, Perplexed and hesitant, beside that With fearful feet, yet eager to explore The land that stretched beyond. While thus I stood, Perplexed and hesitant, beside that sombre wood, Alone the shore laved by it's blood-red tide, A wan-faced ghost approached, my steps to guide.

A rudely-fashioned cross he led me to, Whereon was called a man of mighty worth, From where a jagged stake was driven through, His entrails split and dragged on the earth. I stood aghast, astonished at the sight. Until the shade explained the fat man's plight. Then on the cross I saw in letters red the name of the man. "On earth this man adulterated food."

Then to a sunken pit the way he led, In which a man, with horrid screams and oaths, As ceaselessly around the pit he sped. Did strive with frantic haste to shed his clothes. Inside his shirt, and underneath his pants, Ran swarms of fierce and active bull-dog ants.

Above the pit this sign I read with gleam: "This man is punished thus for usury." Close by a hunched wretch outstretched was bound. By wrist and ankle, just as if he slept. To legs hard-driven in the stony narrow straits. While over him in countless thousands crept Great hairy scorpions, centipedes, and things.

With poisoned jaws and sharp enormous stings. In answer to my look the ghost replied: "He lived on rents until the day he died."

A little farther on, bound hand and foot, Lay one, loud-shrieking over a glowing fire. And every one who passed took care to not glance at him.

A bit more fuel on the blazing pyre. I asked my ghastly guide by what foul crime

The trialing gent, had earned his torrid time. Said he, "This man was cruel to a child," And on the fire a few more logs were piled.

With deprimozoned baying, round a hapless wight, Pierce ban-dogs marled and torn with bloody fangs. From off his Beshy pants at every bite. At least a pound of meat; his loss yelled ran. And when far and near. The ghost explained.

"On earth this man an easy living gained Exploiting working folk." "To have to stay Here, I had hoped, 'neath it," and watch these dogs all day?"

Right gleefully the savage hounds howled. And watched with joy each savoring lump of crimson law. Yet somewhat fainter now the noise appeared. "Than when at first this pleasing sight I saw."

Then rudely shafting my ecstatic dreams, The hash-tower wench shrill through the key-hole screams, As she and fat she pounds upon the door. "Get up, I say, I've called you twice before."

—CRESSET.

THE "WHY" OF IT.

The following from the "Outlook," by Lieut.-Col. W. H. Maxwell, throws an interesting side-light on "the need for conscription":—

"The abuse of personal freedom has reached its climax in this country. Trade Unionism—and shelter for slinking shirkers—is impeding our existence, and by its action a rot of our national soul has set in. One remedy, and one alone, can eradicate this state of rot—martial law will cure it. With the knowledge that refusal to assist in the nation's defence means 'death' to the individual so refusing, the shirker would soon be brought to his senses and would no longer require it. All who refuse to rebel will be shot at once by order of drumhead court martial, would have a very steady effect. England must live. The individual does not count today. If Parliament will not act, then let a Cromwell come in and settle the question—he will be welcomed."

"DIRECT ACTION."

Enclosed please find P.O. for 4s, for which please send "Direct Action" for one year to the following address:—

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 up to the eyes of the millions of working people, and the few who make

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centring of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with faster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working-class have interests in common with their employers. These conditions can be changed and the interests of the working-class upheld only by an organisation formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries, if 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 ally with Capitalism. The army of production must be organised, not only for the everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when Capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organising industrially, we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.



The Coal Strike

Cairns. N. Q.

An Appeal

Direct Action in N.Z.

Propaganda Notes.

The seventh Eight Hour Bill has just passed the "Uppan" House.

Members of that august body demand their Xmas holidays of more importance than the working conditions of wage slaves, so Parliament rose three weeks ago, and once more left the slaves interested to their own devices.

The miners of the South Coast evidently have not much faith in Parliamentary action or their legislators, in any case, so far (at least in writing) they are out on strike over the Eight-hour question.

They have exerted their economic power, perhaps to the extent of compelling their masters to recognize the principle, "go" Parliamentary representatives will run with their already bastardised Eight-hour Bill, and we will again, in the near future, have the "Herald" and its organs expending their eloquence on the importance and efficacy of political action.

Even the capitalist press evidently regrets this tendency of Parliament law-making to follow on the heels of economic action, instead of preceding it, and avoiding the disturbance of profits, thereby showing its inability to comprehend cause and effect.

"Sydney Herald," in its issue of January 5, for instance, says, in reviewing the Coal Bill, "The Eight-hour Bill did not pass Parliament before it rose a fortnight ago, and this has been the principal obstacle to continuing work. But at least there can be no logic in hitting the whole community because the Legislative Councils tried to reach a compromise over the measure. Its business is to discuss, and if necessary, to amend, measures sent up from the Assembly. The debate over the Eight-hour Bill was prolonged, no doubt, but it only shows that there are two sides to the coin presented by the Government."

For the capitalist press to admit by the way, that there are "two sides" to an industrial question is something unique, for we have never understood from that quarter that there has been only the bosses' side. This concession by the "Herald" however, is qualified by the remark that the miners are guilty of treason when they "quarrel and begin fighting at home."

The "Herald" evidently ignores the fact that it intends to make no quarrel, but it here isn't a word about "treason" on the bosses' part, though dark hints are thrown out as to certain pains and penalties if the workers persist in their industrial warfare.

The "Herald" solicitude for the "whole community" which it accuses the miners of hitting, is also rather refreshing. It would, of course, if it became the "Herald" to say anything about the injury to the community inflicted by coal barons and other people who show their gratitude to the boss-bled soldier at the front by making life a perpetual struggle for a crust for his dependents at home.

For the workers to fight this sort of thing at home is a reason for everything the "Herald" has to do but to fight at the front for the benefit of coal barons and other profit-workers who thrive on human suffering is the very essence of loyalty.

If the workers on the coal mines were organised in the I.W.W., with a knowledge of I.W.W. tactics in their toolboxes, they would give the "Herald" and the bosses some lessons on "treason" that they would never recover from.

BROKEN HALL ACTIVITIES

Boags, Palace Buildings, Spelshurst-street. Wednesday Evening, at 7.30 p.m.—Educational Class. Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Business Meeting. Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m.—Economic Class. Sunday, at 7.30 p.m.—Outdoor Propaganda Meeting, near Post Office, in Albert-street.

General: Also good collection of literature for sale. All free rebels welcome.

E. J. KELLY, Secretary.

Office: "Local News," 1, I.W.W.

T. Healy writes— A meeting of Russian workers was held in Cairns on Sunday, 26th inst, a result of which was the acceptance in a body of the I.W.W. organisational methods and tactics.

The meeting opened at 9.30 a.m., and concluded at 4.45 p.m. After a thorough discourse regarding the different forms and methods of warfare carried on by the workers throughout the world, against existing oppression, they were unanimously in favour of the form of organisation as advocated by the Industrial Workers of the World.

They therefore decided on forming a local of the organisation in Cairns. A further resolution was that owing to the inability of the Russian slaves on account of their imperfect understanding of the language to master the education dealt out per medium of "Direct Action," they decided that it was imperative that they should have an organ of the I.W.W., printed in the Russian language.

A press fund committee, comprising Fellow-workers Puitvoff, Yudaef, and Petroff, were elected, and the fund started.

The meeting expressed complete confidence that by the co-operation and assistance of the Russian workers throughout Australia, and also the Australian fellow-worker sympathisers, the year 1916 will see the issue of a Russian organ of the I.W.W.

The meeting was attended by Fellow-workers Jackson, Foley, Waller, Kanbouris, and Healy. Fellow-workers Jackson and Foley addressed the meeting, explaining simply and clearly the structure and methods of the I.W.W.

I enclose a list of the new members, whose subs. will be forwarded in due course, together with a request for the necessary charter. The propaganda of the I.W.W. is being vigorously dealt out to the sugar slaves by the speakers who are in these parts. Invitations to lectures are being accepted by Fellow-workers Jackson and Foley throughout the district.

Jackson will address the slaves at Bahinda Mill during the week. Foley journeys to the Wolfram mining camp, where he will be joined by Jackson at a later date.

Literature List.

- Capital: Karl Marx, 3 vol., 8/- per volume.
Ancient Society: Morgan, Bound, 7/6.
Value, Price, and Profit: Marx, Bound, 2/- paper, 6d.
Evolution of Property: Lapargue, Bound, 2/6.
The Militant Proletariat: Lewis, Bound, 2/6.
The New Unionism: Pridden, Paper, 7/6.
Sabotage: Pouget, Bound, 2/- paper, 1/6.
One Big Union: Trautman, Paper, 3d.
Sabotage: W. C. Smith, Paper, 3d.
Sabotage: E. G. Flynn, paper, 3d.
I.W.W. History, Structure, and Methods: St. John, Paper, 2d.
Revolution and the I.W.W.: Pease, Paper, 3d.
Eleven Blind Leaders: B. H. Williams, Paper, 3d.
Political Socialism, or Capturing the Government: Nelson, Paper, 3d.
War: What For (Cartoon): Price 3d.
Revolutionary Unionism: E. J. B. Allen, Paper, 3d.
Why the A.W.U. Cannot Become an Industrial Union: Alex. Gough, Paper, 3d.
Industry, Efficiency and Its Antidote: T. Glynn, Paper, 2d.
I.W.W. Songs: Marx, 3d.
Summary of Propaganda: Huxley, Paper, 3d.
The Diesel Motor: Frankenthal, Paper, 1d.
Industrial Unionism: St. John, 1d.

Push the sale of "Direct Action," The Boss Issue it.

TO ALL RUSSIANS AND RUSSIAN GROUPS THAT DISAGREE WITH THE I.W.W.

FELLOW-WORKERS: On December 20th, 1915, a meeting was held at Cairns, North Queensland, of Russian workers of that locality. There were many different shades of opinion present. After lengthy discussion, the following resolution was carried unanimously—

"This meeting of Russian workers affirm that all wars are detrimental to the best interests of the working class. We recognize that in the present war, the working class will gain no material advantage therefrom."
"Further, our position towards conscription, whether it be Australian or Russian, is one of absolute opposition. We refuse to be stampeded by scare-mongers, into acting as tools to destroy members of our own class, who reside outside the frontiers of Australia or Russia."

"Further, we, recognizing that wars are precipitated, and are carried on for the interests of the working-class, and further, recognizing that working-class education upon economic lines, is the only way to successfully cope with war and other evils of the capitalist system, this group of Russian workers resolve to organize themselves into a propaganda Local of the Industrial Workers of the World, and thereby endorse the aims and tactics of that organization."

"Further, in order to more effectively carry on One Big Union propaganda among the Russian workers in Australia, we have decided to print and publish a paper, which will be published in our mother tongue. This paper shall be published in Sydney, N.S.W."

"Further, we have decided to issue a circular list for the purpose of placing the Russian paper upon a sound financial basis. All monies, lists, etc., should be sent to the treasurer, J. Fagan, Box 58, Post Office, Haymarket, N.S.W. All monies will be acknowledged through the name of "Direct Action," the English I.W.W. paper."

"Finally, this Local urges all Russian working men to make an immediate request to this Local, and make the Russian workers, organized under the banner of the Industrial Workers of the World, a strong and powerful organization in Australia."

The initiation fee for the Russian Local of the I.W.W. in Cairns is 2s and is 6d dues per month. All communications to be addressed to the secretary, W. Yudaef, Box 201, Haymarket, N.S.W.

"GOD ON OUR SIDE" Sunday, January 2nd, was a day especially set apart for intercession services to get GOD on our side. The getting GOD on our side is a very important problem in modern warfare, of greater importance than the manufacture of shells, guns, and G. The Christian religion is a religion to feed the great military machine. GOD made the world in six days, and he always helped the faithful in their wars. The Christian religion terminate the German war with their brimstone, floods, or some such other weapon that he found most handy, so you see this enlisting of his sympathies, "one that requires immediate consideration."

The Germans are also endeavouring to enlist his sympathies, but, of course, they have no claim on him, as GOD never made them. He could not have possibly done so; they are too bad to be made, and only growed like Topeka. But they may catch his anger in a week, meantime, as others have done before; it remains for us to do our best and pray till our knees are sore with honest sobs, or, if we have our Allies to fall back on, we could well employ them in getting Buddha, Vishna, etc., the tin-pot deities of India; the wooden Jesus of Africa; Gods galore; Gods served in ivory, made out of clay, hanged out in tree, brass, lead, and every other material known to man."

Direct Action was highly successful in a strike which occurred in Auckland just previous to the departure of the mail. The whole of the crew of the N.Z. Shipping Company's steamer, "Ruapeha," went on strike for an increase all round of two shillings per day, having their demands upon the ground that as the steamer was turned over to military transport purposes, they were entitled to the rates asked for.

Seamen, firemen, greasers, cooks, stewards; in fact, the whole of its crew, stood solidly together. The authorities tried to intimidate the strikers by a display of military force, placed almost around the steamer and refused to allow any body to enter or leave the boat.

The strikers, however, were apparently not made of the stuff that is scared of the law. They stolidly lolled about the dock; stokers refused to stoke, cooks refused to cook, and the soldiers for whom the vessel was chartered were obliged to seek for their subsistence elsewhere.

The local secretary of the Seamen's Union in explaining the position of the men to the capitalist press said—

"Since the beginning of the war," said Mr. Knox, "British shipowners and the Admiralty have recognised the fact that immediately a ship is employed as a transport the crew is due for extra pay because of the extra risks. Any ship which carries a cargo is admitted to be fair game for an enemy submarine, and the risks are correspondingly greater. This ship is going to carry 400 or 500 troops, therefore the responsibility of the men on this particular vessel for the ordinary increase of 2s. per day is justified. The shipowners should be the last to complain, for they are skimming all the cream out of war expenditure. One of the main reasons why the waters, has, in consequence of its arrangements with the authorities, by which 10 or 12 boats are used as transports, earned half its paid-up capital in 12 months. The action of the shipping company in detaching the crew from the vessel is illegal. The men are subject to the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act until the articles of war are cancelled. The acting ship-owners or ship owners in this case will certainly be protested against by the Seamen's Union, and it is intended getting into touch with Captain Fleming of the Marine Department immediately."

The manager of the shipping company said that from the legal point of view, the strikers did not have a leg to stand on. Solidarity, however, they always maintained in these waters, and the demands of the men were conceded the same day.

The Australian press has been strangely silent with regard to this strike. It does not pay the capitalist class to let the workers know that direct action, at the psychological moment, can "get the goods" despite the law and the present methods of unionism.

If the crew of the "Ruapeha" were really loyal, patriotic, constitutional-loving workers they would have compelled their employers to give their respective unions to submit their case to arbitration on their return. By such methods they might have got the increase of 2s per day by the time they were ripe for the old-age pension.

kind, and when welshed up carefully by different Gods, from different points of view, seeing that we are right from any point of view, we must of course win. So workers of the world unite and wail your damn'dest."

WILLIAM MUGGS'S SISTER.

Fellow Worker Frank Hanlon, who was editor of the "Industrial Unionist" of the I.W.W. paper in New Zealand, has arrived from a trip to the old country. We will have an article or two from his pen in subsequent issues dealing with conditions in the old land. He intends to stay in Sydney for some time.

The meeting of the Sydney Local on the Domain on last Sunday was a usual, very successful one. Literature was sold, every speaker had a good sales, paper sales, and the crowd were up to the usual standard. Fellow Workers Tom, King, Glynn and Barker were the speakers. At the close P. G. King had many interesting questions to answer.

The Bathurst-street meeting, on Sunday evening, was a bit of a stirrer. The I.W.W. fully expected Mr. Black's police to be there to stop it from holding a meeting. There was, however, no trouble from that direction.

On the meeting starting with the usual Song, "The Preacher and the Slave," Adjutant Slattery, of the Salvation Army, who had just completed its own meeting, tried to create a disturbance. In order to avoid trouble, he was offered the use of the I.W.W. platform, which he accepted.

On the platform, he accused the I.W.W. of being "out-siders," "pro-Germans," and "owards Adjuant Slattery," his remarks more particularly to the ears of a large number of soldiers who were present, he deliberately tried to offend the I.W.W. and the soldiers. All his talk, however, failed, as the meeting was good-humoured and orderly to the finish.

After Slattery finished his harangue, he was ordered to get from the crowd, upon the excuse that he had a service to attend. Fellow-worker Grant followed him on the platform and replied to his attacks, and commencing to reply, Slattery allowed in coming to the front. Grant was followed by Fellow-worker Glynn in the march to the hall, the greater number of the soldiers participated, and attended the hall meeting.

From indications, one is able to form the opinion that there is a concerted move to get the soldiers to break up I.W.W. meetings as an excuse to close the meetings altogether. But the fomenters of trouble and disorder seem to forget that there are many in the army today who are getting wise to the business of militarism as well as the "followers" of Jesus, who are tired of reading charges with revolvers in his hand and "turn the other cheek" of Adjutant Slattery, and Jesus Christ.

The meeting in the hall on Sunday evening, was attended by Fellow-worker King, on "How we are robbed, where we are robbed, and how to stop it." The hall was packed by workers who were interested in the above questions. Many questions evaluated of a very interesting character. Seven new members joined the organisation.

Don't forget the Economic Class on Wednesday evenings, and the business meeting on Thursdays. We hope to have the band going any time now. Members are requested to attend the meetings on the streets in case of any attempt to interfere with the freedom of speech.

Don't forget to boost the paper and to push it among your workmates. A good deal of the best industrial revolutionary propaganda, its up to you, Mr. Dynamite.

MELBOURNE ACTIVITIES.

Local No. 8, 243 William Street. Monday Evening, 11th Meeting. Thursday, 8 p.m.: Educational Class. Working Class Economics.—T. Turner, Instructor. Friday, 8.30 p.m.: Propaganda Meeting. Brisbane, at corner Sydney Road and Victoria Street. Sunday: Propaganda Meeting, Yarras Bank.

The rooms are open to all workers every night. All working class papers on file. Good Library. A welcome to all "disobedient ones."

Printed and Published on behalf of the Industrial Workers of the World, by John Hamilton, Chairman of Press Committee, 319 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, N.S.W.