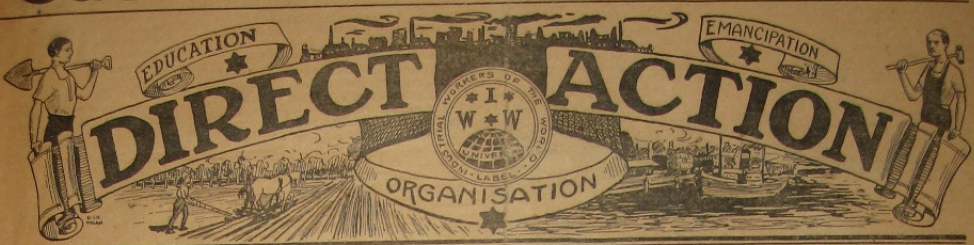


It is Not an Argument.



VOL. 3, NO. 101. Registered at the General Post-office, Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper. SYDNEY, December 23 1916. ONE PENNY.

News and Notes.

Robert Sample, the well-known miners' organiser of New Zealand, has been sentenced to 12 months on a charge of using seditious words at an anti-conscription meeting in Christchurch.

The seditious laws cover almost everything one may say, do, or think, and are apparently not reserved entirely for the I.W.W.

Labor organisations which are at present anathema as to the fate of the I.W.W. agitators may ere long have cause to regret their inactivity.

The war between Despotism and Democracy is waging; the I.W.W. being the most dangerous enemies of Despotism, have been attacked first. THAT IS ALL.

Detectives in Salt Lake City, have been "living well" at the expense of the leading citizens of that city for some months.

In return for the clever work they performed in "working up" cases against, and bringing I.W.W. criminals (?) to justice, the sleuths were paid and entertained lavishly by the grateful citizens.

But something went wrong, rumors got abroad, and "big business" refused to pay dividends to the detectives, who set out after new fields to conquer.

They exposed to Gov. Spry, of Utah, an I.W.W. plot to blow up HIS house. The Governor was suspicious; he ordered investigations, and the clever detectives are now behind prison bars.

The Seamen and Firemen's Union (Sydney) did not—as was alleged by the "Sun"—reject a resolution demanding the release of the I.W.W. men, and for financially assisting in the release.

The resolution was not discussed; it was forwarded to the G.E.U. of the Union for discussion by the various branches.

What a remarkable habit the "Sun" has of misrepresenting working class activities!

Members and friends will regret to learn of the tragic death on the 13th inst. of Fellow-Worker Albert Strand, a militant active member of the "Industrial Workers of the World."

He was working on a boat in Farm Cove, when a bar of steel slipped from the crane sling and struck him on the head, killing him instantly.

DEFENCE AGITATION.

Fellow-Workers Rudolph and Farrell visited the Navy camp at Stanwell Park on Thursday, to place the position re the conspiracy charges before the despatch workers.

Four hundred of the lads had just been returning from the Christmas vacation by a thoughtful government, but nevertheless, the sympathy both moral and financial now being expressed by the workers of this country is nowhere better demonstrated than in the Navy camp, and notwithstanding the fact that they are hitting the road with almost empty pockets, the boys at Stanwell Park stood to us with a splendid hearing, and a good collection for the defence fund.

No doubt the tramping of four hundred men from one job will do a lot to make them realize the real "dignity of Labor," and their position in society, perhaps much more than all the I.W.W. agitators could tell them in a hundred orations.

The absurd social system and the utter cruelty of capitalism is now laid bare to the Stanwell Park lads, and it is to be hoped the necessary fighting spirit will blaze up at this latest revelation done them by a set of political pirates whom we see in our literature, raised from positions of slavery to posts of mastery.

Both speakers, F.W.'s Rudolph and Farrell, dealt fearfully with the case for the release of our imprisoned fellow-workers, and exposed the poisoned evidence on which they were convicted. F.W. Jack Bassett ably and sympathetically conducted the meeting, which ended by the lads echoing to the strains of "Tramp, Tramp," and other popular wobbly songs.

R.I.P.

Domain Protest

ENORMOUS GATHERING.

A record crowd turned up on Sunday after noon to the big demonstration. The I.W.W. Band was on the scene early, and rendered several selections. Although the platform was six feet above the heads of the crowd, the speakers had a still proposition to reach the limit of the audience.

Several showers, of a very useful nature— took place during the afternoon, while "Direct Action" sold exceptionally well after an absence from the inside of the Domain for about ten weeks.

Fellow-Worker Barker was the Chairman. The following resolution was moved and seconded by Comrade Jenkin, of A.S.P., and F. W. Melrose, of the A.M.A., Broken Hill:

"That this meeting of Trade Unionists, Socialists, and members of the Industrial Workers of the World, being convinced of the innocence of the twelve members of the Industrial Workers of the World convicted by a class-biased jury and savagely sentenced by a class-biased Judge, demands their release. Further, this meeting condemns the action of Prime Minister W. M. Hughes, head of the Federal Department of Justice, for repeatedly referring to the I.W.W. as a criminal organization, and to the men at present unjustly in goal as guilty before they were tried, therefore committing contempt of court, and producing the public mind.

This resolution was carried unanimously, with loud applause, and a shower.

Miss Zago recited from Shelley's "Masque of Anarchy"—

"Men of England! Heroes of Glory,
Heroes of unwritten story,

Rise like lions after slumber
In unquenchable number;
Shake your chains to earth like dew,
Which in sleep have fallen on you:
Ye are many, they are few."

Mr. Moran, a representative of the United Laborers' Protective Society, moved the following resolution—

"This meeting of Sydney citizens, of all shades of political and religious opinion, protests against the carrying out of the death sentences on Frank Franz and Roland Kennedy (the latter only a boy of 28 years), leaving this lapse as a barbaric practice to be due to prejudice and revenge against the organization to which the unfortunate men belong. That it is also a departure on the part of the present Government, much to be regretted, as during the Labor Party's term of office capital punishment has been practically a dead letter, the carrying out of the death sentences for some of the most brutal crimes, having been refused sanction."

The resolution was seconded by F. W. G. Kerr, A.M.A., Broken Hill, and carried also unanimously.

Other speakers were F. W. Rudolph and J. R. Wilson, of the I.W.W.

All the speakers spoke well, and to the point. The crowd was enthusiastic, and entirely in sympathy with the men in goal.

Other demonstrations are to be organized in the near future, when other delegates from unions and other organizations will participate. Our best thanks are due to all who assisted in making this protest so successful.

TOM BARKER.



Hallo, People.

Fellow-Workers,
28 railroaded Working Class
Agitators are waiting for their Class
to Speak!

Money is Needed for their Defence. WE
are Organising and Agitating for their Release
and for Funds.
What are YOU Doing?

Justice or Tyranny.

WHICH FOR YOU?

Twelve working-class agitators are at this moment lying behind prison bars! As a working-class man or woman it is your duty to dig through and analyse the case to the bottom, if you have not already done so, you are a traitor to your class! If you have done so, you must be convinced that the men are not guilty, and if you think that, and have not raised your voice in protest, why have you not done so?

Have the capitalist papers attacked you with fear?

Has the spirit of man so decayed within you that you will leave your class brothers to rot in a master class goal because they have offended that class by agitating?

These men are innocent! They should not be in goal, and they will be there no longer than the working class wish!

You should organize and agitate for their release. Let us hear of you!

THE GAOL ARGUMENT

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

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

J. R. WILSON.

Box 38, Haymarket P.O., Sydney.

Direct Action



WEEKLY
OFFICIAL ORGAN
of
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS
OF THE WORLD.

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403 SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

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

Remarkable

During the recent I.W.W. prosecutions,
in the Perth Police Court, the "West"
used to come out with big headlines:

I.W.W.

ASTOUNDING EVIDENCE!

MORE REMARKABLE LETTERS!

The remarkable letters referred to by
the "West" were, of course, letters
which passed between different members
of the organisation. It seemed remark-
able to the master class, or their hire-
lings, that working men should have such
fine scores and contempt for institutions
like Parliament and Church, etc., that
industrially inbred and corruptly in-
vested hold in such high esteem and re-
verence. No doubt to persons who have
little real education and no self-reliance,
it is not only remarkable, but positively
dangerous that a working class organisa-
tion should fear the law and openly
preach that the industrially organised
working class of the world are far greater
than any political law, or all the
Parliaments in the universe.

In the very near future, what strange
and remarkable events will happen, now
that the workers of Australia are begin-
ning to suspect, that politicians and Parliaments
are unnecessary.

The workers of Australia have been
long suffering (which is not a credit to
their intelligence) they have, and are,
leading now the lives of work-beasts, espe-
cially in the gold mines, an industry
in which under modern conditions, prenat-
ure death is CERTAIN.

In spite of celebrating eight-hundred
and fifty years, capturing eight hours for
eighty years, the coal miners had to
struggle, to take "direct action"—to get
an eight-hour day.

Directly and indirectly due to the
immense Industrial Union propaganda of
I.W.W. in Australia, the working
class are at last beginning to move a
little, and to see the need for an up-to-date
scientific form of unionism.

That the workers should at last begin
to think, and show, a little self-reliance,
is what our masters please to term "RE-
MARKABLE."

For the proof of this, we only have to
refer to the English classes. I can scarcely
draw to mind one master of the English
language, who has not confessed to an
English Parliament and law-making, as a low,
a fool, or knave. How many old law-
master class, like Godwin, Shelley, Ruskin,
Edward Carpenter, William Morris, and
J. S. Mills have continually denounced
legalized authority—our law.

Emerson has finely said, "A wise man
must not obey the law too well."
But, that concerning men should
endeavour to put into being men should
for every week-day life, the fine and
true sentiment of the above named great
writers, seems to our masters know-
ABLE Hypocrites! We workers know
our historic mission, the overthrow of
the wage system. The I.W.W. will pro-
ceed first with education, men will over-
come the lay bosses of truth has enshrouded
in a dense fog, the strong darkness,
the deepest imperious gloom of ignorance
and superstition. Our workers have
whispered, "Reason," "Reason or Con-

spiracy," nothing danted, however, the
few faithful adherents keep on, until the
once unpopular doctrine is almost gener-
ally accepted. This is the history of all
great movements. Once it was thought
that no man could be virtuous or happy
without the aid of some supernatural
dogma, but folk don't like to be reminded
of that foolishness now.

With the education of the workers will
follow as a necessary sequence, their real
industrial organisation. Not only will the
workers find they can do without Parli-
ament, but without a host of other bur-
dening besides, such as unpleasant sur-
roundings as long hours, high prices, and
wars, etc. The future Parliaments will
be at the union meetings, men and wo-
men will meet to discuss what they are
all socially and artistically interested in—the
economic resources of the earth. Such
questions as divorce, as religion, or bi-
metallism, can be left to those who are
mutually interested in such things. The
I.W.W. completing that aspect of their
work, will be judged by present day standards
is, no doubt, "REMARKABLE," but it is
good.

M. SAWTELL.

James McStomachache.

REJECTS THE I.W.W.
AND WE REJECT HIM.

The above-named, who is better known as
James McCarthy, President of the N.S.W.
Tranway Union, writes (editorially to that
effect of confidence) "The Daily Telegraph" on
the questions of Trismian, Henry and Law's
Hawker. His complaint against the I.W.W. is,
in brief, that they are a lot of rotters, who
have no respect for anything in the show-
window of modern capitalism. His chief points
of antagonism to them may be summarised
thus—

1.—That several of them were recently made
victims of a capitalistic conspiracy, and con-
victed of arson.

2.—That by their "go-slow" policy they di-
rectly oppose the interests of the Australian
manufacturer, and of the Allies.

3.—That they are gradually becoming a
power in the Trades Unions, and in this capacity
are a menace to men like himself.

4.—That they are interested in Trismian, and
believe in Craft Unionism.

The Unions—that is, the Craft Unions—may
be strictly law-abiding, patriotic, and dutiful
in their demeanor towards the powers that
be. They distrust anarchy and lawless-
ness. They believe in political action, AND
IN A FAIR DAY'S WORK NOW, it will be seen
by the foregoing that McStom is not alone in
his conception of what the Labor movement
really ought to be in order to be in absolute
accord with such eminent authorities on
labor economics as "The Argus," "Daily Tele-
graph," and "Bulletin," as well as with Justice
Fring, the Chamber of Commerce, and Pro-
fessor Fitz-Bodderley, of the Senate Decay
League.

Of course, we don't think so little of the
Tranway lads as to imagine for a moment
that he does not see the sentiments of the members
he represents, or that he will select a man
who chooses for certain considerations to al-
low the capitalist press to inspire his publica-
tions. For McStom represents a decadent age
in working class organisation, and probably
only holds his present position because things
have lately been slack owing to the war. If he
doesn't realise the truth of this statement now,
he will be forced upon him rather unpleasantly
next time the Tranway Union wants a president.

Let us take this opportunity of saying
plainly to all those who howl the same absurd
refrain as he does, that he and his cotinners
must aware that his views are not having
justice done to them.

We DO believe in Law, and in Order, and
in Political Action.

But if by "Law" they mean the statutes
enacted by the influence of money and privilege,
or dictated by the immediate interests of
management—well, we DON'T believe in Law.
And if by "Order" they mean the lawless
and man-shall stand waiting on the pavement
such a weary of the market shall let them
worry about that, well, we DON'T believe in
Order either.

And if political action means that a per-
manent composed of brewers, pawnbrokers,
and others is going to tell the coal-miner how
much a week they deserve, or that political
action, well, we are glad that he believes
that, but not of all.

And if by "Law" they mean the lawless
and man-shall stand waiting on the pavement
such a weary of the market shall let them
worry about that, well, we DON'T believe in
Order either.

DIRECT ACTION.

them to all the heat and the dust and the
rain that comes to Sydney town. Moreover,
their jobs are calculated to rack men's nerves
and tax their patience to the utmost. They
work long hours; they work on Sundays;
and they work on holidays. They are work-
ing in the heat and dust when you and I, and
other wage slaves are taking our wives or girls
out for a day in the surf. In short, they have
sweat as a by-product as any set of wage-
slaves in Sydney.

And what is their reward?—The reward
granted for them by arbitration by their political
aristocrats, by their "leaders" of the type
of McCarthy, alias Mr. McStomachache?—
Why, comrades, they are right down on the
starvation line—ALL THE TIME.

They know that; so do we; so does every-
body. Let their brave law-abiding, arbitration-
trusting President publish their rate of wages,
in the "Daily Telegraph," the paper in which
his article on respectability appeared. We say
plainly that it is NOT.

We know, and he knows, too, that the thing
the married men among them consider all day
is "How the blazes can I pay up when next
pay day comes, and keep enough to last till
the one after?"

So we say to men like McStom: "Sink into
oblivion, brother, and do it at your earliest
convenience. It's up to you!"

And it IS up to them. Because social ideas
gradually undergo changes under the stress of
economic necessity, and this mad old world
has a habit of coming to its sense in time to
save itself from absolute catastrophe. The
McStomachache type of misleader doesn't re-
spond to the present labor march, today, and will re-
spond increasingly less from now on. For which
we may thank the I.W.W.—and whatever gods
there be.

C. M. Z.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

You may say anything you wish against any
member of the I.W.W.—you may prejudice
their case; you may say that they are guilty
of anything with which they are charged, or
may hereafter be charged. They will not
care.

You must not draw public attention to the
fact that the treason charges have been with-
drawn.

You must not draw public attention to the
fact that the Crown Law authorities refused
to file a bill of prosecution in the Lochart
case.

You may not say that they may yet be
proved innocent.

You may say that so far as Germany is
concerned its whole history reveals the in-
fernal spirit of prey and aggression as the most
perceptible law of its nature. The noble
manner in which the cause of Turkey has
been taken up by the Allies proves that
England and France will not admit suffer-
ing by the despots to destroy the nationality of
an independent people.

Do you must not quote any English paper
to show that the same thing has been said
about—

You may say that it is quite right for con-
sciences to refuse to supply coal except on
their own terms.

You must not say that it is quite right for
coal miners to refuse to—

You can call a man if he is an anti-con-
scriptor, a coward, skunk, liar, monarch,
or what you wish, but that a conscriptionist is
an "Anti-Australian."

You may say this is a free country.

FRANK ANSTEW.

"Labor Call"

THE NINETY AND NINE.

(By Rose Elizabeth Smith).

"There are ninety and nine like that work and die
In want and hunger and cold
That one may never see luxury
And he'll be happy in the golden field
And one is and nine in their hovels bare
And one in a palace of riches rare.

From the sweat of their brow the desert
bloody they
And the forest before them falls;
Their labor has builded humble homes
And cities with lofty halls,
And the one owns cities and houses and lands,
And the ninety and nine have empty hands.

But the night so dreary and dark and long
And over the land the victor's song
Of the ninety and nine shall ring
And echo afar, from zone to zone,
"Rejoice for Labor shall have its own."

IMPORTANT.

Correspondents sending all important
communications, or notices, should
refer their letters to the Editor, who
is recommended on ordinary occasions.

For Their Class

All hail, our martyred heroes,
Ye men of lion heart;
Ye pay the price of playing
Emancipators' part.

Ye follow Progress's thorny track,
The well-worn martyr's trail—
The curb of Truth, Sincerity,
Was ever yet The Goal.

What is your crime, what have ye done
To merit murderers' fate?
"Why ask?" we say, "it is enough,
We merit Masters' hate."

As tyrants base did ye essay,
To aggravate men's sorrow?
Of was it this, ye abomored way,
For better things tomorrow?

No selfish end inspired your deed,
No motive base your aim,
O freedom, while you fret in chains,
Comes high akin to shame.

Twelve working men in fetters,
For Working-Class ideals;
Ah, everyone with worker's heart,
Hamilton's feet.

Yet chains can be High Honor's badge,
And prison walls a palace;
When bringing over with sacrifice,
A panikin a chalice.

O History shall less harshly judge,
Less harshly, eye, more true,
And pardoning her heroes,
Delight to honor you.

As harping beauties of a clouded sun,
Albeit a troubled sea,
Give their serene warning,
Of the tempest soon to be.

The gleam of your golden sacrifice,
Through inquiry's shadowing gloom,
Is herald of martyr's ocean,
When the storm arises from words ye speak.

With the might of a tempest's wave,
Will wreck our masters of tyrant make,
On the rocks of wrong's slaves.

W. H. BACOT.

THEIR LIBERTY.

Oh, who can deny man's
Willie human hearts demand
Their liberty.

Humanity our only cry;
Justice our only plea;
We'll strive until we die
For their liberty.

Their liberty to stand
With all men hand in hand
As men to man.

'Tis but their right we claim,
Down with these laws of shame.
Let this be our only aim—
Their Liberty.

Our brothers must be free
From jails and tyranny
Ere peace abounds.

Help us their cause defend;
Oh, who a hand will lend,
And unto these extend
Their Liberty.

ETHEL CUTHBERTON.

WHY YOU SHOULD READ "DIRECT ACTION"

ACTION"

1. Because it prints the latest indus-
trial news (both foreign and local)
of critical articles dealing with all phases
of industrialism are a specialty.
2. D.A. prints cartoons and poems that
no other paper in Australia publishes.
3. D.A. ponders to no political party.
Being non-political, it exposes political
piffle.
4. D.A. has no space for sentimental
stories or gossyp. It is out to do
liver the goods that is, the scientific
knowledge.
5. The fact that D.A. has been most
abused and persecuted than any other
paper in Australia is sufficient testimony
to the esteem in which it is held by pub-
lics. This is because plutoocracy knows
that D.A. knows things plutoocracy does
not know.

The I. W. W. Cases in W. A. Among the Camps War, What For?

SOUTHERN LINE DEVIATION MEETINGS.

CONSPIRACY CHARGES.

Eleven fellow-workers, from the old Black Mountain, Monty Miller, were recently, in Perth, charged with conspiring together "to carry into execution an enterprise having for its object to raise discontent and dissatisfaction among the workers of the West, and to promote feelings of ill-will and animosity between different classes of the subjects of our said Lord, the King."

The hearing of the case lasted seven days, and resulted in eight fellow-workers—Sawtell, Miller, Arceet, Johnson, Horrocks, Lunn, Hutcheon and Goller being committed for trial to the Quarter Sessions. All were, however, allowed bail. The other three fellow-workers, O'Neill, Sidoti, and Sarz, were discharged.

The I. W. W. organization, its preamble and its methods were again approved in trial, as the clever, defiant speeches—here reproduced from the "West Australian"—of Pelegus from the Mick Sawtell and Monty Miller will indicate—

Sawtell's Speech.

Sawtell was the first man addressed by the Bench, and in reply, he said that now that the decision of the Court had been delivered, he desired to make a few observations. "I would not feel called upon," he said, "to say anything at this stage were it not for the fact that this is the first great working class case in the history of Western Australia. As you yourself have admitted, a good deal of the case revolved round the word 'sabotage.' You will find that the word 'sabotage' does not appear in any English dictionary, and consequently persons who are unacquainted with the Labour movement and terminology are likely to place a sinister construction upon the word. Sabotage, as the word is known is 'anarchy.' I would like to make special reference to the word 'sabotage,' however. It means, as you have seen in our pamphlets, the conscious withdrawal of the power of machinery, or the use of machinery as a commodity, and the employing class use 'sabotage' to suit their ends. Remember the trusts and the rings? The employing class would restrict the output of sugar and put up the price. And when the workers are forced to organize our labour power to make it scarce so that the price of labour will increase. That is what I desire to call the attention of the public to, so that the erroneous impressions regarding the I. W. W. may be removed. Were the workers of the world organized on the I. W. W. plan, there would be no such thing as a down tools' strike. Such a strike as the present coal strike is resorted by the I. W. W. as a craft union move. The workers should do a hunger strike, because they know that the women and children are the greatest sufferers and there is misery all round. We would prefer a different financial system. We would organize the workers on our lines—that is, sabotage. We would

GET THE MEN TO GO SLOW, and the output of coal would be less, making supplies scarce and the price of coal would be soon achieved. It was stated that they were endeavoring to stir up discontent. The I. W. W. did not cause discontent. There was sufficient discontent consequent upon the high price of living, which during the last three years had gone up 20 per cent.

THE I. W. W. DESIRE TO RECTIFY THE POSITION BY EDUCATION. These are our three objects—education, organization and emancipation. Education is the laws of life make for enterprise and happiness. I do not think that even counsel for the prosecution would deny that fact. We intend to revolutionize the world, and to do much to relieve the economic discontent to day. Another world—revolution—has occurred often in the case. By revolution we do not mean bloodshed. We mean to do as much as enough of that business in the French Revolution and in the Commune. We want a revolution of thought, consequent upon the better education of the workers. Mr. Walker has satisfied me in our organ.

IF OUR DOCTRINES ARE WRONG, WHY NOT COME INTO THE OPEN AND DEBATE THEM?

At every meeting we have had there has been the usual question. We have asked for debate and questions. Our objects have never been to persecute any individual, nor to antagonize any particular capitalist, but to do away with the system of exploitation and to give to all the workers who have intimate interests in the capitalist class, but that does not mean that we intend to differentiate in the present conflict with their class. We realize the conflict between our interests and that of the I. W. W. is guilty of conspiracy. The International Federation is equally guilty of the same offence.

Miller's Address.

In reply to the formal invitation from the Bench, the accused Miller made an emotional speech in which he said that no man desired more than to be vindicated in the position in which he stood that day. "I am no party," he continued, "to gibbets or gibbets. I say it with pride, with no loss of personal dignity, and with no sense of loss of self-respect, or of any feeling derogatory to myself—

I AM A MEMBER OF THE I. W. W.

It is not a member by right of payment of subscription. I am a member in liberty, in truth, and in power of spirit of righting, during the short span of life left to me, after long years of suffering born in toil and hardship, wrongs which exist. I feel elated here to stand up or fall by the side of such comrades as these.

Miller accompanied his expression of elation with a resounding pat on Sawtell's back and proceeded with feeling, said: "I would sacrifice my life, my children and my property. I have endured through my long life of over three centuries of a century for such a cause. In my long life I have known the hardships, the adversity and the struggles of the present system, with something more and beyond. I have seen the me and the lives of those I love for want of bread in times of poverty and want of employment. I would go through that misery for times over rather than shrink from the position I am placed in today, when I have to stand for the principles we hold dear have only been maintained by the sacrifice of other's liberty. I would be a traitor to those who paid that price in the past if I did not stand for the principles we hold dear. I have the right to place left for me in life. I shall repeat what I say here in the Higher Court, as well as everywhere else. I

DO NOT WISH TO SHIRK the slightest responsibility attaching to being a member of the I. W. W. As for the learned counsel for the prosecution, I am quite well aware that I could have secured his services before the Crown had I been able to place a few more dollars in his brief than I have. In which case he would have pleaded my cause as earnestly as he has tried it against me in this Court. He has tried to prove that I am a member of the I. W. W. I GIVE HIM THAT INFORMATION FREELY.

—I AM A MEMBER. He must, with his trained and educated mind, however, know that a admission of one fact of an entirely different character to another, does not necessarily prove the existence of that other fact. For example, if the I. W. W. does not go to prove that I am guilty of conspiracy of any type, I have never conspired. That is secret; it is mean, it is detestable. I and my colleagues have taken the same path before the whole world. WE WANT EVERYTHING TO BE KNOWN, we want the people to know what manner of men we are, and what trend of thought we hold. If this could be done, and if the world understood, instead of misunderstanding our aims and the law, it is the best thing that could be done. I hope that there will be no counsel at the higher Court. These gentlemen are trained in the point of view of the law. I know nothing of the law, but I know that the founders of I. W. W. in Australia, as well as the members of the first I. W. W. Club formed in Chicago to secure a charter in which respect we were unsuccessful, and as one of the founders of the I. W. W. in this State, what is objects are. I do not wish to absolve myself of any complicity whatever in the foundation and institution of the I. W. W. I say again with pride that

I AM A MEMBER OF THE HIGHEST HONOR AS AN OLD BATTLER IN THE CAUSE OF LABOUR.

to be permitted an opportunity to advocate the platform, as a revolutionary party paper, the principles we hold, and to stress in public our object of improving the position of the working class."

It is reported that while the old man—the 86 years old working class warrior, Monty Miller—was speaking, his comrades in the dock several times broke into applause.

The other I. W. W. and connect two remarkable events in Australian history by 62 years of agitation deserves a cheer!

The man who can clasp Bunka of 1854 in one hand, and the conspiracy charges of 1916 in the other, is worth a cheer of itself. He does not deserve "the cell," and with a live working class he will not get it!

Sawtell, one of the I. W. W. accused, is no slouch as a cross-examiner. His merciless line of attack, which was without compromise, with literature is limited to the sporting columns, would have made a hyena laugh.

—W. A. paper.

WANTED. A file of Volume 1 of "Direct Action" is wanted at this office. Forward price of game

Fellow-Workers Farrell and Rudolph, of Sydney Lock-up, by Comrade Webster, of Alpine Camp, held large successful meetings at the "Pile Mile Camp," "Seven Mile," and the "Eleven Mile" on Sunday, December 10th.

All the men in these camps save attentive hearings on the 11th inst. Indicting that Workers of the World, in reference to its members who are now lying in jail under sentence.

The following resolution was carried with one dissent, viz.:

"That we the workers of these camps, emphatically protest against the imprisonment of the twelve members of the working class, on trumped up charges of conspiracy and arson; we demand the immediate release of these twelve men, charged and entering custody to support these men financially and morally in their fight for justice and the rights of the workers."

There was a remarkable spirit of solidarity amongst the navvies of the Southern line, and at every meeting there was marked enthusiasm, and the hope is more than just a "glimmer"—in fact we see the "light" that little Billy Hughes was chasing.

Fellow-Workers Farrell and Rudolph wish to thank each one of those in the camps for their great hospitality, and entering custody that made the four such an unexpected success.

Yours in the fight for freedom.

RUDOLPH.

"DIRECT ACTION" WINS OUT.

Workers in the coal mining industry have at last been given the privilege of working eight hours a day. For many years the workers have been celebrating Eight Hour Days, and for seven years they have waited patiently for the Arbitration Court to come along with the concession of an eight hour day in the coal mines. The "new" mode of the Arbitration Court occasioned no surprise to those who understood the purpose and the make-up of the Court, but the majority of the miners, being good Labor Party men and strict constitutionalists, perceived with the Labor Party's scheme, and patiently awaited the desired result. It never came through the Arbitration Court, and the odds are that if they had waited another century the eight hour bank-bank day would not have materialized through that channel. The miners, or perhaps only a majority of them, are slow thinkers, but they do wake up, their brain fabrics do at last become ripe to receive the imprint of "Direct Action," and when they are said of the workers in many other industries, where they are still being duped by the craft union pseudo-politician and his arbitration net. We have said that the coal workers' "Direct Action" is a revolution, and when the Industrial Workers of the World speak of Direct Action we mean intelligent Direct Action—not the stupidities called Direct Action by people who either don't know any better, or don't care to understand—that is, concerted determined action by the workers or industrial section of the workers, to attain a definite purpose. The industrial strike is the form advocated by the I. W. W., and the recent coal struggle was the first of these lines yet attempted in Australia. Never before have the coal miners and wheelers, etc. of the entire continent "walked out" and folded their arms simultaneously "to die up" an industry throughout the continent as a big task, and would have been impossible a few years back, and those responsible for organizing this "vacation" are to be congratulated upon the success of the fact that this was possible since that an appreciable advance has been made in the psychological "make-up" of the coal workers. We are not pretending that the arrangements made for the carrying out of the strike for perfection can only be barely reached through experience. The industrial strike has been "tried out," and it "got the goods." The next move is to build up industrial unions; the only fact that is in the letter of the day when the workers shall come to such a decision; they know the power that can be wielded against them. It only remains for the working class to realize their power and necessity, and when they do so, they will have taken the first step towards reaching out and making the world their own. A MACK.

SUBSCRIPTION BLANK For "DIRECT ACTION"

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

Name _____

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FILL IT IN NOW!

War! Just pause a moment, ye patriots, before you shout with excitement, before you brain whir with patriotic fervor. Yes, pause! and look at the war from every aspect that it creates. The call to arms has gone forth—men flock to the colors. War is on, grim, horrible, bloodthirsty, but, above all, useless war. War which pits one set of human beings against another set of human beings. Look at that! That mortal combat, that reason flung to the winds. The nation which possesses the strongest armies, the heavy artillery or the best officers will triumph. Triumph! At the cost of innumerable lives and stupendous sums of money, which are expended in the form of war falls on the bottom of the working class. It is the toilers who make munitions, the toilers who, in overwhelming numbers in comparison to the opposite class fight on the fields of carnage. It is the toilers who pay the supreme cost of the war! Who are the toilers? Why, the poorer class who toil in factories from early morn 'til dewy eve to satisfy the inhuman demands of war. The richer folk can afford to pay what little levy they are called to create. The call to arms does make sacrifice, but on the average the workers are the person who does it all. The rich folk cannot be blamed. It is only human nature for them to pass their time in pleasure and luxury when it is within their means to possess or indulge in it. The worker has no such means whereby he can indulge in the best things of life, so he is forced to sell his labor power to the richer folk who buy him, of course, as little as they can. There is not enough work for all, and no competition for employment springs up. The employer as a rule receives just enough money to buy the food to go to work. But when war comes he is still more jeopardized, and so goes to the slaughter. After the war, one side may gain the victory, but all warring nations have been drained of their best resources in the process of war and so the workers, as a matter of course, go back to the factories. No gain is made by the workers. The workers lose, and that is the result of the slaughter. After a few years the conditions under which they formerly lived again prevail. They toil on, until another situation of commercial supremacy arises, and perhaps they will go to the war united with the victors. War will fetch no good whatever to the working masses. It is a good remover, it removes lives and material from a country and leaves hunger, poverty and dirt. War is the enemy of the workers of every nation. The only fight they should take part in is a fight for their rights.

"Not the right to work," but more of the things their workers creates—with leisure to enjoy them. That is what the intelligent workers should demand.—Lafayette.

"POLITICS AND CRIME.

The practice of announcing the political views of SOMB persons charged with criminal offences has apparently become the custom with the daily press, as testified by alleged members of the I. W. W. are concerned. But what we do not see is the political predilections of the large array of departed solicitors, wise poisoners, embezzlers, murderers, incendiaries, bigamists and divorcees who daily figure in our courts.

Why should alleged members of the I. W. W. be marked out for special mention? We did not see any reference to the political or industrial views of the Waverley Aldermen who are at present in the dock, or any other persons we do know the politics of 503 out of every thousand persons charged with grave offences.

What inference is to be drawn from the fact that they are in the dock? Are we to assume that they are members of the Employers' Federation, or the Pastoralists' Association?

We hardly think so; but the public will at least conclude that they are not associated with I. W. W. or the fact would have been proclaimed from the columns of every news sheet in Australia.

I. W. W. ISM AND CRIME ARE NOT ALLIES.

That was clearly shown in the famous verdict the other day, when out of twelve men convicted of conspiracy, only one had ever before been charged with any offence.

And yet these men, simply because they were accused and convicted of a crime, received the average punishment that is inflicted on the heaviest criminal with a long record of crime against his name.

If it were not for the public and kindly left in the community our fellow-workers should be at once liberated pending the investigation of the whole case by an impartial Royal Commission.

I. C. B.

