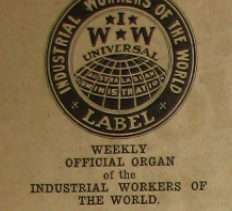




# Direct Action The Factory Evil.

# Efficiency.

## FORCING THE PACE.



(Australian Administration)  
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## Saving Labor Power.

To such an extent has the damnable "slow down on the job" poison been eating its way into the heart of labor during recent years that scarcely a day passes without some of our public men exposing and condemning—quite justly—the lazy attitude of many of our workers.

Men, we are told, who a few years ago proudly boasted that they were the best and the hardest workers in the world, no longer talk that way.

As was to be expected, the I. W. W. have been blamed for this state of affairs. However, we are not to blame. We believe in hard work quite as much as the employers do. We realize perfectly well that the nation—as a commodity producing concern—would fall to pieces were all to work as slowly as the employers and the I. W. W., and hence, although we don't believe in hard work for ourselves we are with the capitalists in advocating it for others.

Now, while the I. W. W. and the employers are in harmony with regard to their horror of slow work—for others; we quarrel with the crude way they have of presenting the economics of the tragedy—as Mr. Fraser, Chief Railway Commissioner terms it—to the workers.

Although the I. W. W. are shoudering the blame for the "slow down" style of work, we are not responsible for it; the whole trouble comes from the example set by the employers. It was—was frankly proud from them who learned the trick, and we suppose it is from them that other workers are learning it—if they are learning it. The "despicable" slow down system, if reduced to its logical conclusion would mean national starvation. The I. W. W. have persistently pointed that fact out. Suppose the whole working class go to sleep that they stopped, what would the world be? There'd be only the reless, prostitutes, the parsons, politicians—left to do it! No schools, no clubs, except them to do work capable of producing the necessities of life! They're not used to such a world, and even if they knew how, it would be unreasonable to expect them to do it in addition to their usual work.

We don't advocate the "slow down on the job"—now. But we do advocate 10 or 16 hours a work a day; not because we are so greedy "to get his hardest," but because there are, and will be, thousands of men and women who will have no jobs at all if half a dozen are going to do all the work. We argue (crudely of course) that under an 8 hour day, three persons can fill in the day, but under a 16-hour day they need four to do the day's work, and they need five if the unemployed could be absorbed and fed out of the pits of an empty stomach. Maybe the workers would fill a little under this arrangement, but what would matter as long as the workers were better off than they are now?

We have yet to see the employer who, being assured the workers could be let alone, would raise the slightest objection to the introduction of a 6-hour day, 16-houring day, or any other method of shortening the day.

The I. W. W. are in constant agitation for the rest from all Christian employers—and about 99 per cent. of these are Christians who believe in the "golden rule" and who "love their neighbors as themselves."

We now enter the year 1917 still under capitalism with its factories and the direful results to all who labor therein. In factories towns of America, such as in other countries, are matter of fact, such have come to be known as "company towns." A Butler in "Stead's Review." According to Mr. Butler's article, the methods and practices of business, such as organization, planning, routing, stockpiling, waste-saving, labor saving, etc., are matters which need to be looked into with a view to increasing output. The idea of this "efficiency engineer" are not new, but are comparatively new to this country.

Briefly, the idea is wherever possible to "check" the output of every individual employee with a view to securing the utmost exertion from each individual, and to weed out every employee who falls short of a fluctuating standard of efficiency, with a constant endeavor on behalf of the employer to raise the standard of efficiency insisted upon. This is to be supplemented by a system of penalties to be substituted for the day-work method; special premiums are to be provided for exceptionally large output and for special skill. According to the author, the country will be long to follow the lead set by commercial enterprise in other countries. As a matter of fact, the system has already to some extent been introduced wherever industrial processes lend themselves to the system of part-production. But seeing that such schemes are devised and introduced by the employers with a view to accentuating output and gaining increased profits, it is as well that the workers should be on their guard against such schemes, and should be on their guard against any measures that may be used as a lever to break down the advantages they have already gained by bitter struggles. The propagation of schemes to improve the efficiency of the worker is, therefore, to be met with the assumption that the interests of the employer are synonymous with the interests of the worker. The interests of the working class are left to the care of themselves. The idea uppermost in the commercial mind is that the worker must live to work, not work to live, and as to the physical well-being of the employees that is a matter which receives very indifferent consideration. Possibly, if these people had all their own way, the same state of things would ultimately prevail in Australia as it is prevailing in the Land of Dixie, if we may believe reports. There is that one man of note is reported to have asked, "But where are your dirt roads?" and have got the answer, "In the country."

Every true report on the condition of modern workers reads more like the life story of some race of cannibals than that of so-called civilised humanity. Looking back through English history we note that it is not many years since the Government interfered with the employment of women and children in the coal mines. The coal owners, like the factory owners, were satisfied to let children and women, broken in health, perform the vilest and heaviest work in their mines. Thus some years later, when women and child labor were banished from the mines, and the men who pioneered this very necessary reform were met with the fiercest opposition from the employing class. Any other system, however, that would give profits was a thing horrible to contemplate to the greedy capitalist-vultures.

Several useful reforms fell to the workers during the quarrels that raged between the capitalists and landlords in England about a century ago, but since that time concessions have been wrung from the employers only by a display of working class solidarity and determination.

The conditions under which factory "hands" work and the speed at which they are driven has no other object than the squeezing of the last ounce of surplus value from their hides. Men, women and girls—put under these conditions merely because they are ignorant of the structure of society.

Were they to listen to, read and study the propaganda and literature of industrial unionists, they would probably develop the desire and the knowledge to improve the conditions of factory life. A class-conscious determination will alone better their working class to materially better their working and living conditions.

Nothing ever came to the workers of any country without a struggle, and that struggle has always been branded as crime by the governing class. This struggle for better things is a class struggle, and it must go on until the working class, organized as one body and taking possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and by abolishing exploitation and by producing and distributing for himself and those dependent upon him, we will have brought about the overthrow of capitalism and established a new civilisation.

—BLUE JEFF.

## Set Them Free.

The birds whistle merrily in the trees and the summer sky is clear and beautiful. The rich aristocratic citizen in his chair smoking the most expensive cigars and finance is good and sound, and the utmost pleasure is derived from his idling. His mind is free from any worry. Life is indeed lovely.

In a dark stone dungeon, a man gazes through a barred window, a man gazes stretch which forms his only escape. For fifteen years he must endure this life he was making way for... because when Christ to endeavor to emancipate the world's laborer. He thinks of the tolls his insurance and subscription, and curses the thief of the capitalist. But surely the cunning will not let him rot in jail when they have the means to set him free! Hope that right will triumph still burns

How the nation can add to its efficiency and the supposed benefits that are to be derived from the Yankee ideas of ever-accelerating industrial processes, are matters which have recently been dealt with exhaustively by Mr. J. A. Butler in "Stead's Review." According to Mr. Butler's article, the methods and practices of business, such as organization, planning, routing, stockpiling, waste-saving, labor saving, etc., are matters which need to be looked into with a view to increasing output. The idea of this "efficiency engineer" are not new, but are comparatively new to this country.

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We can imagine that it would be a matter for great satisfaction to the individual manufacturer if he saw every employee straining every nerve to work, and keeping his mind constantly centered on his task, and his object of exceeding the output of everyone else in the factory. But suppose such a prearranged system were carried to its logical conclusion. In the case of the worker, it would lead to such a state of affairs that for fear of being dismissed, however nervous racking and injurious to the health it might be. Every factory would be driven to speed up in equal degree, and competition would be as keen as ever. Moreover, as a consequence of increased output the danger of a glut in the market would be greater than ever. We should not forget that although the fiendish devices adopted by the sportsmen to increase the last ounce of energy out of the employee may cause fortunes to be made quicker, the surplus of discontent will inevitably increase in the method of "putting the screw on" the workers. The policy of "exhausting the screw on" may lead to results that the capitalists expect. It would be thrust upon the eyes of those who were the strain of the industrial mind and of those who could see their health wasting as "national efficiency" increased. It would show them the folly of their interests.

The theory that the accelerated rate of production might lead to a raising of the standard of living of the working class must be accepted, but not for the reasons which govern production. So far the forces aimed to increase the production of luxury goods and weapons of destruction to be used by another section, than the working class, and that the workers have been left to the mercy of others to be crushed.

—J. CHRISTOPHERSON.

In his breast, and he sets calm and resolve, waiting for the class for which he now lives. All true working-class men will stand by him and help to drag him from the pits of Hell and help to smother the iron jaws of the system through "One Big Union."

I am waiting on the breadline singing poor, soggy.  
For, in my way, I'm as happy as can be  
Still I know my dear kind master would  
my wrongs.  
But it's hard to bear his generous  
I shake hands with my starvation in the  
Aye, I'm filled when my stomach  
roll;  
I list with rapt attention when he says  
his say,  
For he's deeply interested in the way  
I'm happiest when hunger grips with  
intensity,  
For I know that heaven's only for the  
It's sublime to see my loved ones with  
pained apology;  
With starvation's spectre knocking at  
door.  
My kind and generous landlord, he treats  
like his own,  
And he teaches me the wisdom of men,  
That with supreme satisfaction I may view  
cherishes home,  
And with joy intended always pay the  
bill.

I laugh at haunting terrors, and seek sleep  
in prayer;  
I'm as merry as a victor on the rack,  
A comfortable living's a delusion and  
snare;  
I'm so happy and so glad I've got  
back.

—PETER.

**THE GAOL ARGUMENT**  
Funds are very necessary in this time  
FOR THE LIVES OF our class here  
FELLOW-WORKERS, IT IS UP TO YOU  
TO GET BUSY AND KEEP BUSY IN YOUR  
UNION HALLS AND LEAGUES. Keep it  
working hard to save danger that threaten  
General meeting protests, agitate and organize  
increasingly and forward unlimited funds  
for the Defence to  
J. R. WILSON.  
Box 55, Haymarket P.O.,  
Sydney.

## Daylight Saving.

One would think that this innovation according to reports, is the politician's ideal—"a measure introduced for the benefit of all classes of the community." It is a scheme which has been criticised by the employers and the workers. But let us examine this tampering with the clock a little closer. We are told that in England "large savings have been effected in artificial light and power; also that the workers spend most of their spare time in the cultivation of gardens."

Now, apart from the displacement of labor as a result of saving light and power, which is bound to be extensive, we consider the cultivation of gardens. First of all I believe it will be conceded that work is work, regardless of where it is done, but, unfortunately, Mr. Gladstone's work done in the garden is done for himself, hence he begs into it, forgetting that it is relieving the "boss" of responsibility in providing a sufficient waste to buy vegetables.

I venture to affirm that although it has not received any adverse comment, and is treated with indifference by the working class, this is a scheme which has the effect of almost unconsciously increasing the hours of labor. At one sweep "Fat" has brushed aside all the arbitration and awards dictums about starting time and knocking off time. In conjunction with all the moves for economy it is apparent that the worker is to be "kicked" that for his own reasons he should get to and grow his own vegetables and thank a kind patronising Government for being so thoughtful of his welfare. It is not my object to discourage "home enterprise," but more to point out to our thoughtful "Labor bleeders" how much more satisfactory a reduction in the hours of the would be for the health, and garden culture, and as a means of assisting to relieve the ever growing unemployment problem, than a silly innovation like "Daylight Saving."

ERASMUS.

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# A Modern Delusion

A great number of people, despite all evidence to the contrary, still look to Parliament, and to the various political bodies, to bring about a new and better order of things. They fail to realise, in spite of all past experience, that Parliaments do nothing they are not forced—by some outside or the other—to do. With equal vigor and confidence, as each election comes round, they support and place in power different political parties and different individuals, and the result is as good as the same. Each political party that comes into existence, has for its principal object, the betterment of the conditions of the working class. No party would like to see the light of the political world if it came into being for the benefit of any other class, and yet, the passing of each of these parties invariably finds the working class still struggling for its emancipation.

Parliament, like the police, military and the church, is merely a weapon of the ruling class. Parliament does not rule. The Government, as most people understand it, is not the Government, but simply one of the instruments by which the ruling class is ruled. Once a man "gets into power," his environment is changed, and is liable to change him also. There are very few men who, when once they get into power, do not want to stay there, and who are not particular about the means they adopt to remain in that highly desirable state. But no man can, through Parliamentary action, do any lasting benefit to the working class. He may get out sooner, or he may be pushed dead out, in the shape of wages board, arbitration courts, maternity bonuses, etc., but the moment he attempts to do any real good, he runs the risk of being pushed out, or of being killed in the world over arrayed against him.

The cause of the Napoleonic wars was the fear of the rulers of the neighbouring European countries that Napoleon was one who was not particular about his own liberty, a desire for which would, in all probability, spread into their own people, and result in the overthrow of the monarchial system. The present system can only be overthrown by educating the people on the right lines, by bringing them to realise that they and their employers have nothing in common, that their interests are diametrically opposed, and that they are the exploited and the exploiters. To "industrialise" Kipling's "For the boss is boss, and the slave is slave, and never the twain shall meet."

It is on the industrial field that the class war must be fought out. The workers must make their own tools, and assemble peacefully—by arbitration or similar means. It is deplorable that the men should take the law into their own hands, and resort to going out on strike, because, under the provisions of our arbitration acts, striking is illegal.

Industry must not be paralysed, transport must not be held up; the brave boys of the army must not be kept short of supplies. They are fighting for us—our homes, and our freedom—not for the employers' property; not to keep the German and Austrian capitalist from displacing the Australian capitalist.

These brave boys, when they return after fighting for their country, will be permitted to buy a piece of it. It is on the industrial class became slave to the real situation. The present system must pass away. As all other systems that have gone before have had their day, so will the present system, like all other things in this world, succumb to the evolutionary process, and to endeavour to change the system is merely to become an instrument of evolution. It is not wrong to want to change it, but not to want a system can only be judged by its results. A system that has had results that are not to the benefit of the masses, and that does not benefit itself, does not benefit the masses. Does this system produce war, disease, poverty, prostitution, starvation, slums? Could these things be prevented? Are there any means by which a new system cannot be brought into being?

Why do we have wars? Do the workers care? Only when they are worked up into a highly excited state (also called patriotism) by various capitalist agencies, such as the Press, and public opinion, do they care. It is easy to play on the emotions of the ignorant, and it is highly those there who are ignorant. As time goes on, more and more of the working class are coming to realise their true position. The capitalist class has reached that stage of perdition when most of us have passed automatically.

It is a humiliating matter to be told that it is not bad advice with regard to this particular subject. The study of this matter cannot be begun too early.

# Chidley.

The Dean-Meagher case, the Land Scandals, and all those other cases which "graze" the history of our State pale to insignificance when placed in comparison with the Chidley scandal; perhaps the Chidley Conspiracy would be a more fitting title, as doubtless a conspiracy has been constituted in order to crush this man.

To the ever-fred, red-faced man, standing in the street with a couple of half-a-dozen stone of poisoned fish, puffing a cigar, and feeling contented with a few inches of Scotch whisky in his stomach and gazing at the stalwart philosopher, Chidley, was indeed a crank. A man so unconcerned with his tobacco and liquor, to live without animal food, to keep healthy with but 10 ounces of silk on his body and to control his passion for six months or six years of a steeple. A man of that caliber, to the man whose brain is saturated with alcohol and nicotine, is a crank—a hopeless lunatic.

But the unbusiness, the scientific man, could see nothing unwise, either in the man Chidley or his philosophy.

Independent of Chidley's research, the writings of the man in the present conclusion, both in theory and practice, as Chidley did. Then I knew Chidley and his family intimately. Within the last few years, we often went touring together—the summer months would be going swimming, the winter months would be going with the agility of a man half his age.

I have travelled much—I have met all sorts and conditions of men, but I never came across so honorable or so respectable a man generally as the doctor.

I can say he never informed me. From my conversation and observation, I should say that Chidley had an acre concealed in his body than the man in the moon.

Independent of Chidley's research, the writings of the man in the present conclusion, both in theory and practice, as Chidley did. Then I knew Chidley and his family intimately. Within the last few years, we often went touring together—the summer months would be going swimming, the winter months would be going with the agility of a man half his age.

The Prime Minister in one of his big speeches during his lightning tour of London, observed: "If the Empire is to continue as it is," and as it has been, it would be better to go down in the war." For years Chidley has been telling his hearers much the same thing:—"We are not to be any more going," "In a few years we are to be no more going," "We are like sheep going over a precipice—These things do not know the fate of those in front."

To England the mandate has gone forth that the people must be given no more cigarettes, and other dependencies. Here in Australia we have recently had a Royal Commission on general. The huge hours have been reduced and we are now under diligent saving legislation. Vegetarian diets are springing up, and there is a widespread movement for reform in diet, dress and sexual matters.

Much of this is due to this dose to-day Chidley. A man whose name and Chidley's looks have been laid. Practically the whole of the Commonwealth has studied his teachings, but not a single person can upset his contentions, and did any well-known scientific man endorse them.

What is our civilisation or perhaps to be correct, our exploitation.

Three quarters of human effort is expended in the production of goods that are not wanted, but all this effort is putting into the hands of the people that which is destroying them. The major portion of our industrialism is so much wasted energy. It is to reduce a baroque, and we should be more frantically employed in shovelling bobbles or chasing nails.

The cry of luxury has never been smothered by a more under diligent saving legislation. Vegetarian diets are springing up, and there is a widespread movement for reform in diet, dress and sexual matters.

It is too that. This Chidley conspiracy is a big blot on our history. It must be cleared up.

An independent tribunal should go into Chidley's personation, outside the Aynan, as well as his death issue.

EMANCIPATOR.

Workers, we produce as a class, we are robbed as a producing class let us face the facts. The world is divided into two warring alliances, all will be opposed to us. We will then have running orders on a clear track to the co-operative Commonwealth.

—Western Clarion.

There is only ONE union people class, legitimate cause should be only ONE union. That is the I.W.W.

# Unlawful Associations—Debate.

Senator Mullan: As I am not going to vote for the suppression of a body unless I am satisfied that it is criminal in itself, or involves in its connection with the proper development of civilisation or society, I want to vindicate my vote and attitude by reading that (the I.W.W.) objective. I shall show by so doing that all this talk about the institution, and all this coupling of it with acts of individuals, is so much rubbish. It reads as follows—

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who make up the employing class have all the good things of life.

Will there anything wrong with that? It is no more than the other side take exception to that clause?

Senator Senior: That is not an objective.

Senator Mullan: It is, just as the Labor Party is the objective which is the quintessence of its platform.

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

The abolition of the wage system, that is all. We have at all times advocated the abolition of that system. Does Senator Senior believe in it?

We have seen the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which 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 all the employing class of the world the belief that the only way they have interests in common with their employers.

I do not agree with that, but is there anything criminal in it? It is merely a difference of opinion as to political methods and means, and is nothing in itself for which this body should be suppressed any more than some of our unions might have been suppressed years ago.

These conditions can be changed and the interests of the working class shall only by an organisation formed of such war that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

What is the harm of "an injury to one the concern of all"?

Senator Bakkah: Is not a general strike dangerous to the public safety?

Senator Mullan: The general strike may be wrong, but it is part of their propaganda, and it is not to be regarded as a criminal act. If you advocate a strike at all it is only a question of degree. The general strike simply happens to be a bigger strike than a single strike. The course Senator Bakkah is against all uprisings in the interests of liberty, and for the improvement of working conditions. He would not be true to his party if he were not.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must insert in our banner the revolutionary catchword: "The abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away 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 organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society—the basis of the new order.

What is wrong with that?

Senator Shannon: What are they going to put in its place?

Senator Mullan: That is a matter which the evolution of politics will determine later on. The world with capitalists, and growing weaker and weaker, but so long as we have it we shall have industrial slavery.

Slavery of one class against another will go, as serfdom and slavery went.

I appeal to every fair minded man and woman to say whether that objective, as an objective, is not a criminal one.

(Extract from "Hansard.")

# Others Views.

I.W.W. Sentences.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—Mr. Justice Pring, when pronouncing sentence upon the 12 members of the Industrial Workers of the World, described the I.W.W. as an association of criminals of the very worst type, and a hotbed of crime." Possibly Pring honestly believed it to be so. Class prejudice has been the cause of worse charges than this, and the whole conspiracy campaign demonstrated. The sensational portion of the Australian common law believed Pring's accusation to be true, for the sycophantic press, which panders to this section, made undue haste to inform the public in this way. Pring and the parasites we are not much concerned; their whole outlook necessarily is warped by their economic position. It is to members of our own class that we address ourselves.

Unfortunately many workers are influenced by capitalist morality, much to the detriment of their own class interests. The ruling class has long had taught, or have paid hirelings to teach, the moral precepts which tend to maintain their power and privileges. Perhaps it would be nearer the truth to say that the ruling class has sought to have moral precepts interpreted in such manner as to safeguard its interests.

Thou shalt not kill, nor steal, nor destroy thy neighbor's goods except it be through the arrests of capitalism. Then, of course, the work of our class will be, and instead of the rope, a medal and a regular job (albeit at sweat rates) is his portion.

Stealing is no longer an infraction of the moral code which is cited out on a large scale, and so long as the victims are members of the subject class. As for the destruction of property, capitalism condones it when it condones increase of the profits of industry. Understanding the foregoing, crime in the present capitalist society necessarily takes on a class aspect. The intelligent worker before passing judgment on his fellow's action will first ask himself the questions: "How does such and such an action affect my class? Will it strengthen or weaken the worker's position as against that of the capitalist?" Remembering also that tactical blunders can be made he will be charitably disposed towards those comrades who in their zeal may make mistakes.

Had the 12 I.W.W. men been arraigned before a judge and jury of their own class, they would have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from five to 15 years? Certainly not.

Our evidence produced by the prosecution that the accused have been "not guilty" of the three charges levelled against them. The only charge that intelligent, class-conscious workers can see against the accused is that they used methods of attack on predatory capital, which were futile and liable to result against the working class. Personally, I am not prepared to say that they would be proven guilty on that charge. Changing circumstances of the industrial battle compel a change in tactics. It may be adopted by the working class army, but whether it does so is a matter of fact, not of section that use them is to be condemned. However, I do not purpose creating a controversy regarding the advisability of the use of force and tactics. Sufficient it is for me to be convinced that guilty or not guilty of this latter charge (which was not made by the police) certainly does not affect the case.

In conclusion, let me state that I am personally acquainted with several of the unfortunate men and am proud of that acquaintance. I have known them six years or more ago on the West Coast of America. Between stretches of work, this man was propagating, without pay, the idea of industrial unionism. He was an ardent and militant fighter in the working class army, and however eagerly Justice Pring would have sentenced sites may proclaim him and his fellow-workers as vicious criminals, I for one would rather spend any time in the company of a few of them than of any presence of the virtuous crowd will condemn them.—Yours for freedom.

GORDON BROWN.

South Brisbane.

Brisbane "Standard."

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