

THE PEOPLE

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In the domain of Political Economy, free scientific inquiry meets not merely the same enemies as in all other domains. The peculiar nature of the material it deals with summons as foes into the field of battle the most violent mean and malignant passions of the human breast, the Furies of Private Interest.—Marx.

In every civilized epoch the prevailing mode of economic production and distribution and the social organization consequent thereon, are the basis from which is built up, and from which alone can be explained the political and intellectual history of the epoch.—Marx.

Judd Fined £100

Extracts from the Charges

The following extracts are from the two charges upon which Judd was fined £50 each; the third was withdrawn:—

"We find now—a little over two years after the battle was fought—that the story *they* gave us about the battle of Jutland, the greatest naval battle in the history of the world, was not true. Two years last May the battle was fought, and we were told how the British battleships chased the German battleships into the German harbours; how they followed them through the night, and how the German battleships took to their heels, and how the British caught them unawares. The truth is coming out now. Jellicoe's own statement has been published, and it turns out that the Germans went out deliberately to look for the British fleet, and found it. They fought the British fleet until dark, and then, instead of the German fleet running to a German Harbour, the British fleet suddenly steamed eighty miles from the scene of action, and left the German fleet there. Admiral Jellicoe says that the German torpedo boats were in such great force that no thought of retreat, or the possibility of the seas depended on the British Navy—not to imperil the British Navy there, and so they steamed" (away) "from the battlefield, and left the German battleships there, that were undamaged, to tow the damaged ships home.

"That is an illustration of the lies they serve you with as regards the war." I mention this as an instance of how the public have been doped with the war news.

Re Russia.

"... this cant of sending a military expedition of the Allied Governments—Japanese, American and British capitalists, conspiring to crush the only working-class Government in the world, the only place in the world where they have got any semblance of freedom at the present time. And you find the German capitalists pushing on the one side, and the Japanese capitalists—where they shoot pacifists on sight, and where they shoot Socialists without a trial" (pushing up on the other side). Japan is going to send an army to restore order and fight for freedom. In my opinion no greater crime has ever been committed on a people in history than the crime of the Allied Governments in trying by military force to break down the workers' government in Russia.

"... I know of no greater crime than where the Russian people, having lived for generations under the most brutal and blood-thirsty ruling class in the world, and, having overthrown it, and trying to create a government of a more humane kind, were shot down by the capitalists of Europe conspiring to break down the Russian workers' forces. Why? Because the revolution which started in Russia has been felt throughout Austria and Germany, and the thought is now penetrating England as well; and that is why the ruling-class governments are determined to break down the rule of the Russian workers. Then, we are told, they are fighting for democracy; yes, fighting for democracy! You will see how much democracy you will get in the very near future.

EXTRACTS FROM SECOND CHARGE.

"... They say that this is going to be the last war, and yet they are training the little children in such a way that they can be fit for a second fiddler.

"... Heby speaks about the Allies being democratic countries, and Hall (the Attorney-General), who was in Japan recently, says that in Japan they shoot a Labourite on sight, without a trial; and, of course, that is democracy.

THE PARIS COMMUNE OF 1871.

On March 18th, 1871, 48 years ago, the Paris Commune was inaugurated in that historic city—the first attempt made by the modern working class to govern themselves and administer industry and create a new society based on labor and social service. As all the world knows, the Commune failed, drowned in a sea of working class blood—one of the most fiendish massacres in history. For 48 years the Socialists of the world have re-told the story of the tragedy, and celebrated the event as the first step in the definite entrance on to the world's stage by the working class to free themselves from the bondage of wage-slavery and the chains of capitalism. Also to pay homage to the memory of our comrades of labor who died that their class might be free. And now in 1919, after the greatest human slaughter ever known, another great revolution has taken place, transcending the Commune in magnitude and sublimity in its aim and conception, the great Russian revolution and transformation. As in the case of the Commune, the whole of the capitalist class and its hireling press are a unit in their denunciations and slanders against the Soviet Government of Russia. No doubt, many things are being done there that under normal conditions would not occur, but what revolution in history has been free from them?

It should not be forgotten that...

"... The people of England will have to deal with the militarists of their own land.

"... The British Navy is as great a menace to the peace of the world as German militarism. They say Germany prepared and concentrated on the land; it is quite true that Germany prepared on the land. If you built two ships to the other fellow's one, what were you preparing for? England for years made it her boast that she had a Navy of what they called a two-power standard—that is, a Navy equal to any other two Navies. What for? Was it for a Christmas display; for a spectacular purpose; for moving picture films? Not just as Germany was preparing on the land so was England preparing on the sea; and Russia was preparing, and France was preparing; they were all preparing, and they all got what they prepared for.

"The slave was so proud of his job and his Empire, of which he does not own a foot; so proud of all the great things the Empire has achieved that he will go away and get spread out in front of a gun, like manure, to maintain democracy. I have told you candidly before now, I'd see the ruling class in the lowest depths of hell with their parsons praying about them, before I would try to persuade a man to go into the trenches in their interests. One of the charges against me is that I said: 'One of the grandest things that could happen to humanity would be for the men of both sides to lay down their arms and go home.' I have said that, and we are in a Christian land where the parsons say 'love your enemies.' They say in church, 'Love your enemies,' and they go on the recruiting platform and say if you don't get a gun and shoot the other fellow you are a coward, and you are not fit for the Kingdom of God.

"They tell you you'll get fifteen shillings a week out of the Lord Mayor's Fund, and perhaps this fund has become depleted, and all the Lord Mayor's funds in the universe cannot compensate a mother for her son. There are things that no Lord Mayor's Fund can replace. Their funds cannot replace a loved one once he is scattered about the field like so much manure.

"As far as we Socialists are concerned we are not in this war. When the men come home, when it is all over, they will realise what I realised when it started. Then there will be a revulsion of feeling, and they will realise that the only sane people throughout the war were the Socialists who refused to take part in it.

the reaction of the old regime, the former ruling class, who are always responsible for the outrages. The German revolution may, like the Russian one be the precursor of the new society the Paris Commune strove to create. At present the Spartacusites are in the same position as their French comrades of 1871, and, like them meeting the same fate from the reactionary and capitalist class. In 1871, Wilhelm Liebknecht, father of Karl Liebknecht, supported the Commune from Germany, as did Bebel and others, and now his worthy son has paid the penalty in blood for his heroic acts. It is mere idle speculation to forecast or predict what will be the final and ultimate result of the present European upheaval, though we can safely say this, whether the time be long or short, Socialism is going to be realised in Europe and throughout the world. When the working class are industrially organised, educated, conscious of their power and might, then no force on earth can prevent the establishment of the new society which our Paris comrades of 1871 were butchered for.

"Workingmen's Paris, with its Commune will be forever celebrated as the glorious harbinger of a new society. Its martyrs are enshrined in the great heart of the working class. Its exterminators, history has already nailed to that eternal pillory from which all the prayers of their priests will not avail to

"The working-class fight is not in France, is not in Italy, but is right here on the job. The people that we should keep our eyes on in any war are the politicians, and the puppets of the ruling-class, the whole bunch of them that are prepared to do the dirt work of the ruling-class.

"You try our way! That is not to partake in war. They say war is a glorious thing. I do not know of any fouler form of murder than for one body of men to murder another body of men they never saw. One army trying to catch the other in its sleep. If you shoot him whilst he is asleep, or run a sword through him—in this war they try to outwit each other and murder each other in their sleep—and then we are told you go to the Kingdom of Heaven. You know that despite all the flag-flapping this war is foul murder.

From Canada comes the news that the Government has suppressed thirteen labor organizations, making it a criminal offence to belong to any of them. The avowed reason for the suppression is that these organizations advocate revolution by physical force. Without having any details of the immediate causes, without therefore admitting that there is ground for such drastic measure in the case of any of these organizations, we can say freely and absolutely that in one case at least the Canadian Government has made a gigantic mistake, a mistake that should not be allowed to go unchallenged. The Workers' International Industrial Union is named among the rest, if we are to trust the report of the "Daily Province" of Vancouver, Can. The Workers' International Industrial Union is not a dark lantern organization; it does not advocate a change in the structure of society by force. It advocates the political and economic organization of the working class, and the abolition of capitalism, but by the civilized weapon, the ballot.

Do you, fellow-workers, like to suffer all the time? Don't you ever want to be free men? If you wish to become free, you can not become so under the present system of private ownership. He who owns the factory owns you. He can discharge you whenever he desires to do so; he pays you a wage sufficient to give you only the bare necessities of life. You will always be his slave. Only when the workers abolish private ownership and establish the collective ownership can you become free men.

"Ability and Labor."

A Critical Review.

A pamphlet, bearing the above title, and issued by the Socialist party of Victoria, has come to my hand for critical review. The pamphlet embodies a discussion upon "Labour" and "Brain work," etc., between the editor of "The Australian Manufacturer" on the one hand, and "Radix" of the S.P. on the other hand, together with a characteristic introduction by R. S. Ross, the Editor of "The Socialist." Starting at page 7, the discussion consists of four contributions, viz., two contributions each from "The Australian Manufacturer" and "Radix," respectively and alternately.

Speaking broadly, the pamphlet is disappointing; although the "Australian Manufacturer" was unwittingly no match for "Radix," any more than any wild elephant or other wild animal is any match for mankind.

So far as I can remember, "Radix" is the first writer to have pointed out the fact that industrial inventions and industrially applied scientific discoveries do not account for any value in the increased product, as also to point out the concomitant fact that such inventions and discoveries merely result in an increase of the quantity of use-value produced.

The discussion in these two parts indicates that the writer has bestowed considerable thought upon Marxian literature; and it indicates, too, that he has real capacity for Socialist work—if he only give himself a fair chance, and give his capacity the necessary free play. But he should not be afraid to give more than such tender takes, as he does, to capitalistic rubbish; and he should aim at being always consistent. Also, he should steer clear of all evil influences; for example, it is a handicapping misfortune for any writer, with any promise at all, to fall under the exuberant and charming, but rapid and deadening flattery and patronage of such word-intoxicated persons as Mr. Editor Ross.

Concerning the pamphlet as a direct and forceful reply to that "vulgar" brute of an "Australian Manufacturer," I am bound to say it is nothing less than a distinct failure. This is mainly through a total absence of the true Socialist keynote. Modern Socialism is nothing if it be not scientific Socialism; and scientific Socialism is, first and foremost, and all the time, the orderly and scientific expression of working-class discontent. Right through all Socialist literature that is worthy of the name, the one and only keynote by which every other note may be corrected, is the ringing note of working-class discontent; which ever-swelling note is also ringing, with ever augmenting crescendo, more and more in every land throughout the wide world. To use another metaphor, working-class discontent is the one and only salient Socialist feature by which every other Socialist feature may be oriented and set straight.

I specially read through this pamphlet, and very carefully, to search for any traces of that indispensable Socialist keynote, but I found none; the keynote is not there. And I consider this omission to be the biggest fault of the pamphlet—pre-eminently the pamphlet's "one thing needful."

The opening article or contribution, starting on page 7, is from the "Australian Manufacturer," and it runs to page 16. It is a very choice and delicious piece of brutal and bare-faced "vulgarity"; it is immensely superficial and vastly shallow; and it is very impudent and ignorantly cocksure, and about as cunning as a heavy load of wood.

This impudent article gets going by declaring in its first sentence "that labour is infinitely more productive to-day than it was" hundreds of years ago.

Now this is a very bold statement for the "Australian Manufacturer" to make. But

(Continued on Page 4.)

Saturday, March 1, 1919.

Socialist Labor Party of Australia.



FORMERLY THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

Inaugurated 1887. Established as a straight-out political Socialist Party in 1899.

OBJECT:

The establishment of a Co-operative Commonwealth, founded on the collective ownership of the land and the means of production, distribution and exchange.

Headquarters—Room 5, Rawson Chambers, Rawson Place, Sydney.

JAS. O. MORONEY, General Secretary.

The People.

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Saturday, March 1st, 1919.

The modern revolutionist knows full well that man is not superior to principle, that principle is superior to man, but he does not fly off the handle with the maxim, and thus turn the maxim into absurdity. He firmly couples the maxim with this other that no principle is superior to the movement or organisation that puts it and upholds it in the field. The engineer knows that steam is a powerful thing, but he also knows that unless the steam is in the boiler, and unless there is a knowing hand at the throttle, the steam will either evaporate, or the boiler will burst. Hence, you will never hear an engineer say: "Steam is the thing," and then kick the locomotive off the track. Similarly, the revolutionist recognises that the organisation, that is propelled by correct principles, is as the boiler that must hold the steam, or the steam will amount to nothing. He knows that in the revolution demanded by our age, Organisation must be the incarnation of Principle. Just the reverse of the reformer, who will ever be seen mocking at science, the revolutionist will not make a distinction between the Organisation and the Principle. He will say: "The Principle and the Organisation are one."

DANIEL DE LEON, In "Reform or Revolution."

Government by Regulation Dumbocracy in Australia.

Every man and woman in Australia, unless an alien insane, a criminal, or "undesirable," or bluffed out of it, has a vote, therefore, in this land of sunshine. A great democracy—but it is done. Can only speak when permitted, must do as it is told, by a few political accidents who control both Federal and State Governments. Parliament does not count, and the Federal Government as the Federal Parliament of its constitution is concerned, it does not exist. A person named Watt or Pearce or Millen, in the absence of the inevitable political accident, Hughes or Joe Cook, they can and do, issue any edict or regulation, and it has the full force of law with all the penalties and punishments they like to impose. Any magistrate in Australia will enforce it rigorously, and brow-beat and treat with the most brutal harshness any victim who may come before him. A slightly better, though not much, treatment is meted out by the Judges, but as Dante said is inscribed over the portals of hell: "Abandon all hope, ye that enter here." And this is free, democratic Australia, mere pigmies clothed with the powers of Czars or Kaisers, and with the military, police and detectives as their agents to keep the masses of the people in line. Every Sunday in Sydney Domain for months past before the flu embargo stopped the meetings,

could be seen detectives taking notes of every speech made at Socialist and Labor meetings. In spite of the protests made and growing public indignation, this spying and tyrannous act was maintained, and honest, decent members of the working class regarded as potential criminals. Labor and Socialist papers and magazines and high-class publications and newspapers have been suppressed, and the only paper remaining in Australia is the "Sun," owned by the "Trusts," and millions of the working class are butchered to give us liberty and democracy. On top of all that in New South Wales an edict has been issued making all the populace in Sydney wear masks, owing to the outbreak of pneumonic influenza. All theatres and picture shows closed up, all schools, every kind of meetings, public and private, indoors or out. Thousands thrown out of work, and a dole handed out to them so that they would not starve—from the public funds of course, and the head of the Health Department, the Minister for Public Health, J. G. Fitzgerald, one of the first Labor rats in the first State Labor Party, who could never regain an elected seat in the State Parliament, but was lifted into the "Upper House" for life, by Holman; and now this uneducated person issues ukases as to how we shall spend our walking hours once we leave our working class mansions. When a disease of epidemic attacks a community no one can complain against every rational precaution being taken for the general welfare, but when we are attacked with both war precautions clubs and State clubs, and treated like dumb-driven cattle, is it not time that the working class and the alleged democracy of Australia asked itself where they are. The Labor politicians are dumb, voiceless, frightened out of their political lives. The craft unions are dumb, cannot meet anywhere, except in caves along the coast, nor can Socialist organisations.

There is a limit to all things, and it is about time that a move was made by the working class of Australia to demand that this dumbocracy and eluboracy must stop. These political accidents of a passing moment can be summed up in the words Shakespeare wrote a long time ago, though Shakespeare will be here when they are gone:—

"O, but man, proud man! Dressed in a little brief authority,

Most ignorant of what he is most assured, His glassy essence like an angry ape, Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven, As make the angels weep."

A League of Exploiters or A League of Labor.

The Peace Conference at Paris has, through President Wilson of America, presented the draft of the League of Nations for the world's inspection, which we are told that the draft was unanimously accepted by the fourteen Powers represented. Though, this cynical paragraph appeared in Sydney "Sun," on February 17th, the day that the cables reported the presentation of the scheme by President Wilson, one knows that four-fifths of these wise and experienced statesmen disbelieve in the project, their acquiescence varying from cynical desire to please President Wilson to a doubting wish to give the League a chance.

Those "wise and experienced" statesmen are the same old capitalist politicians whose wisdom was and is responsible for the system and form of society which helped to bring about the world slaughter, and who are prepared to maintain that system—capitalism. The majority of the human race were not represented at the Conference; the working class had no representative there, nor did the people of any country directly elect any delegates to the Conference. Two of the greatest sections of the human race, the Teutonic peoples and the Russians, were not represented at all. The League of Nations will not be under the control of the "people," but that of a small official coterie, who will simply represent the ruling capitalist class of the world. Armies and navies are not to be abolished, neither is conscription, unless the working class of each country are organised and determined to wipe it out. Rival and competing capitalist interests will come in conflict for markets and trade, and when you touch profits and material interests then the guns begin to sound. This danger is recognised by the League draft. One of the clauses provides that if any recalcitrant nation refuses to submit its claims to arbitration, after a certain amount of delay it is to be economically boycotted, and in the last and final resort, armed force will be used to bring it to terms. The following is a cable and specially displayed purple patch from President Wilson's speech:—

"A living thing is being born to-day. It is a vehicle of life, practical and humane. It is a league of peace, not of war, a league which will be used for the unification of the lot of the toilers. Imagine into the open all things which light killed, pulling the covers from the secret."

"A great thing has happened. We have done with annexations of helpless people for exploitation."

A living thing has been born with instruments of death hanging to it. Neither President Wilson nor the Conference has let the demerit of the dark places; Capitalism still holds it up, the working class are still to be exploited and still annexed to capitalism. How can there be peace when "we are prepared for war"? When all the conditions exist which makes war always possible. Who makes war? Not the working class of the world. They have no quarrel with each other. Why should the working class of the world slaughter each other? They produce all the food, clothing, and shelter, everything of use on this earth—they are the majority—no war could take place without they were the human parties and forced like dumb-driven cattle to the shambles and the wholesale butchery, which for nearly four and a half years, destroyed millions of the world's young manhood. Were the working class responsible for that? What should they do? Of course not. They were simply ordered to go and they did. The capitalist class still own the world, and capitalism remains a danger and a menace to human life and well-being, and so long as it exists peace and security of any kind are simply impossible on this earth. Instead of peace the outlook is rather for more and more slaughter, unless the workers of the world wake up. In spite of the ramparts of blood and iron which it is proposed to erect behind the peaceful League of Nations, with its battle ships and guns, another and greater rampart is to be built up—a League of Life and Labor. Against massed guns we must present massed men and women of the world—One Big Union, national and international, of the working class of the whole earth. Labor of every clime, irrespective of where they were born—and the color of their skins, are all of the working class. Their labor produces from the earth, and in the industries all that keeps the race alive; they build the ships, make the guns, and all the hellish instruments of human destruction, and their bodies are the targets that face the guns. "The greatest since Christ," says a cable in the Sydney paper, who? President Wilson. What cant! No, the greatest living thing is going to be, the birth, growth, and development of the One Big Union, industrial and political of the world-welded working class league, coming together to own the world, and all that is in it, and making all the socially operated means of life the common collective property of the whole people—production for use and not for profit. Armaments and warships will be abolished, and it will be made a criminal act for any section of the race to build or maintain those instruments of human slaughter.

But that is impossible, the dream of a mad-man! Man is a fighting animal, and if you take away force, how can you protect or defend yourself against aggression or a brutal foe! Under capitalism, we admit, it is impossible. But what a boomerang against the Christian morality and ethics of capitalist society. The capitalist class believe in force. They maintain their power by it; well the working class in their fight for right can also use force—the massed and united working class army. No power on earth can move against such a force. It is coming. It may not look too bright just now, but labor is on the march to make life safe, and to establish real democracy and a society that will be civilised, and the world a safe and secure place to live in. Workers of Australia, on with the One Big Union for life, labor and Socialism.

State Capitalism.

The workers of Australia are to-day being side-tracked, and led away from the real goal of revolutionary working class action (the taking over of the means of production by the workers themselves) by the Political Labor Party with its flimsy promises of salvation under the leadership of the late Frederick Engels exposed the true nature of State capitalism in the following quotation:—

"But the transformation, either into joint stock companies or trusts, or into State ownership, does not do away with the capitalistic nature of the productive forces. In the joint stock companies and trusts this is obvious. And the modern state, again, is only the organisation that bourgeois society takes on in order to support the external conditions of the capitalist mode of production against the encroachments, as well of the workers as of individual capitalists. The modern State, no matter what its form, is essentially a capitalist machine (Mr. T. J. Ryan, please note—"The People") in the hands of the capitalists, the ideal personification of the total national capital. The more it proceeds to the taking over of productive forces, the more does it actually become the national capitalist, the more citizens does it exploit. The workers remain wage-workers—

Socialist Siftings.

The question for the working class is how are we going to live? They have been dying for the past four and a half years, and now they are asking everywhere how they are going to make the world safe to live in.

The British elections last December, on a jerry-built electorate, returned a capitalist, reactionary and jingo Parliament, which did not as the recent strikes show represent the working class. The alliance of Labor in Britain now is causing Lloyd George and Co. more perturbation than the Allied meeting in Paris. Look at Ireland! What are the British Government going to do there. The Sinn Feiners represent the Irish nation by their votes, and refuse to take their seats in the House of Commons. Reported that Lord French intends to resign unless the British Government releases the Sinn Feiners in prison and concedes Home Rule. And French was going to force conscription on Ireland! But he didn't.

The great industrial fight in Belfast is a hopeful sign, showing that the workers in that sweat-shop of Ireland are awaking at last. Evidently Belfast workers are not going to be fooled by Carson and his gang any longer. Workers of Ireland, North and South, are coming together in one big industrial union, and industrial unionism is making great strides throughout Ireland and promises to be the greatest movement ever organised in that country.

Scottish workers on the banks of the Clyde are maintaining a reputation as the most aggressive and militant section of the workers in Britain.

When we hear the truth and the veil is lifted it will be found that the S.L.P. has become a very powerful organisation and influence in Scotland. The political accidents of Australia still prohibit British Labor and Socialist papers coming to Australia. And the working class here stand it all, but the worm will turn.

The workers were told by Lloyd George and Co. when they were grabbed for slaughter that a new world was to be theirs after the war, and now the workers are going to take this job on, as Lloyd George isn't big enough to do it.

The gates of hell were opened and the working class are now going to close them and try and make a bit of heaven here. The screeching of Hughes at the Peace Conference about the Pacific islands leaves the Australian workers very cold. He has no authority to speak for the working class of this country. Why is he permitted to speak about one of "our Allies," and what he alleges to be the danger to Australia while we are not permitted to breathe a word here.

The mountain of lies against the Bolshevik and Soviet Government of Russia are still being piled up by the capitalist sheets, but their lies are so barefaced and contradictory that the working class in Australia are now beginning to regard them as jokes. The Czar and his family have been murdered in a hundred different ways by them, and are continually being resurrected. The latest appeared in the "Sun" a couple of weeks ago, which reached the Czar and his family are safe in the Kremlin in Moscow. All the horrible accounts of their deaths being mere camouflage, as Lenin is to re-institute the Czarism, when the bourgeoisie have been finally defeated and the revolution triumphant. That is the very latest.

It has also been finally decided, according to the cables, that the Allies will not intervene in Russia, leaving them to stew in their own juice and work out their salvation or damnation in their own wicked Bolshevik way.

This fact cannot be controverted that the Soviet Government rests on the votes of the Russian people, and are growing stronger instead of weaker.

One of the delegates appointed by America to meet the Russians at the proposed Allied conference is the Rev. Herron, who is called a Socialist. Well, he is of a sort. Because "we are all Socialists now." Aren't we! Trotsky will be tickled to death, as he knows all about the reverend gent, and his matrimonial and other escapades in America. The soulful gentleman has been living in affluence in Switzerland for some years.

proletarians. The capitalist relation is not done away with. It is rather brought to a head. But brought to a head, it topples over. State-ownership of the productive forces is not the solution of the conflict, but concealed within it are the technical conditions that form the elements of that solution. This solution can only consist in the practical recognition of the social nature of the modern forces of production, and, therefore, in the harmonising the modes of production, appropriation and exchange with the socialised character of the means of production. And this can only come about by society openly and directly taking possession of the productive forces which have outgrown all control except that of society as a whole."

S. L. P.

PRESSING ON.

As forecasted in our Jan. issue, the General Executive has published Daniel De Leon's grand statement "Reform or Revolution" in pamphlet form. This month the Executive has also printed in pamphlet form Eugene Debs' great speech on "Industrial Unionism." Both pamphlets are printed in large type, and should be read by every member of the working class. As the Executive has more money at its disposal for publishing pamphlets now, it will probably publish De Leon's masterly statement "Two Pages from Roman History"—which exposes the Labour fakirs of all the political parties of capitalism—within a few weeks, which will probably be followed by Marx's "Value, Price and Profit." We also edit out within two or three weeks of its publication. A second and improved edition was published, a large number of which are already sold. This pamphlet has attracted wide-spread attention, and orders are still coming in for it, and other pamphlets, from nearly all over Australia—from Townsville to Tasmania.

The S.L.P. was the first organisation in Australia to endorse and advocate the organisation of the working class in One Big Union on class conscious revolutionary principles. The S.L.P. endorsed those principles in 1907, and has consistently advocated them ever since. It imported and printed and distributed many thousands of pamphlets on Industrial Unionism, and now it is carrying large stocks of pamphlets that deal specifically with this burning question. The S.L.P. has the sole right to publish American S.L.P. literature in Australia. Any Labour organisation requiring large quantities of pamphlets can secure them at special rates. All plates of pamphlets are being kept ready for extra editions to be printed from. The Executive is contemplating certain improvements in the "People" that should make it the equal of the American S.L.P. paper—"The Weekly People"—the finest Socialist paper in the English-speaking world.

CENTRAL BRANCH.

As briefly noted in our last issue, the Party and Central Branch Headquarters have been removed to First Floor, Rawson Buildings, Central Street, City, which is as central in Sydney as the Town Hall is in Melbourne. The Hall is about fifty or sixty feet from Pitt Street, and between Pitt and George Streets. A great advantage is that it is far enough away from the main-line to avoid the noise of trams interfering with the business.

The Party has had seven electric lights installed in the Hall and a two hundred candle-power red electric light outside. Many of the seats used in old Marx Hall, and which had been stored at Comrade Drake's, have been taken to the new Hall. Photos of all the great Socialist celebrities are arranged around the walls, and all is ready for action as soon as the prohibition against meetings is lifted.

Comrade Mrs. M. Hungerford McMahon, who joined the S.L.P., just after the first Anti-Conscription campaign, and who was a party speaker in both the State and Federal elections, and who has since been elected to the Executive and Press Committee, has been appointed Organiser by the Central Branch. She commenced duty last Wednesday week, and has already been very successful.

Comrade Healy, the Literature Secretary, has been kept busy despatching parcels of literature. He has been very successful in his efforts to place the literature department on a sounder basis than when he accepted the Secretaryship. The result is that the Literature Department is in a better position than it has ever been—both in stock and funds.

Despite the plague business, and the prohibition of all meetings, the S.L.P. is getting in good work, and pressing on.

With our new Hall, City Organiser (and, we hope a Country Organiser, in the near future), large variety of literature, improved "People," Etc., we hope to develop splendidly.

THE ECONOMIC CLASS.

Since January, 1918, Comrade Emmett has conducted an economic class regularly every week, taking the class carefully and scientifically through Marx's Capital, and those who have attended have benefited by his instruction and close study, and it can safely be said that the S.L.P. membership in Sydney have a more scientific knowledge of Marxian economics than they ever had before. Comrade Emmett's essays, explanatory of the more difficult portions of Capital, have been most valuable and enlightening contributions, worthy of being put in permanent form later on. It can safely be said, without exaggeration, that no other organisation in Australia has such a scientifically and scholarly conducted class; therefore, every member of the S.L.P. who can possibly do so should regularly attend the class, which meets every Thursday night at headquarters. They need not fear of it being dry, as Comrade Emmett illustrates with diagrams, and has gone to no end of trouble to make everything as clear as a scientific question can be made. Visitors are also welcome

to attend the class. As soon as the embargo against meetings is lifted the class will resume action.

THE UNITY QUESTION.

A meeting of the General Executive on December 16th, after considerable discussion, and on the motion of Comrade Judd, the following resolution was carried:—The Executive, believing that the unity of all Socialists on the scientific principles of the Socialist Labour Party will enable them to more effectively resist the onslaughts of the capitalist class, and more effectively prevent the chloroforming of the working class by political parties, whose principles, if adopted, only involve the administration of the capitalist class state and the perpetuation, instead of the abolition of capitalism, requests the Australian Socialist Party to appoint three delegates to meet three delegates from the S.L.P. to draft a basis of unity, such basis to be referred to the respective Executives for their endorsement, and if endorsed by them to be then referred by them to the members of their respective organisations, for ratification or otherwise. This resolution was sent to the A.S.P., and a reply was received from them stating that it would be considered at their annual conference to be held in December.

Following a meeting of the A.S.P. Conference, a reply was received asking if the S.L.P. was prepared to unite on principle only, and leave all other matters to the vote of the membership of the new party; and requesting a "definite" reply—yes or no.

To this the following reply was sent by the S.L.P. on the morning following the receipt of the A.S.P. communication:—

That the S.L.P. sends fraternal greetings, and in reply to yours of December 27th asks for a definite statement, "Yes or No," on the question which was contained in our communication of December 18th, namely: "Is your Executive or Conference prepared to appoint three delegates to meet three from the S.L.P. to devise a basis of unity." Further consideration of your letter of the 27th is deferred until we receive such statement from you. The S.L.P. delegates have already been appointed, and they are ready to meet the A.S.P. delegates as soon as you notify us of their appointment.

To this the A.S.P. replied that they had appointed three delegates—Comrades Everitt, Thomas and Scott. Comrade Judd went to the A.S.P. Hall on the Sunday night to arrange time and place of meeting. Comrade Scott said that he had to get back to Melbourne, and was afraid that he would not be able to stay to be present at the conference. Comrade Judd offered on behalf of the S.L.P. to pay half of the expenses of Comrade Scott if he remained till the conference took place; but Comrade Scott said that it was not a matter of money; he had to get back. The meeting was arranged for New Year's morning; Comrades Judd, Foley and Ostler represented the S.L.P. Comrades Everitt and Thomas the A.S.P. They said that Comrade Drew had been appointed in place of Comrade Scott, but they did not think he would be present, and he did not attend. Comrade Ostler was elected to the chair. He said that the S.L.P. delegates had a free hand, and asked the A.S.P. delegates what was their position. Comrade Everitt replied that they had been instructed to ask the S.L.P. delegates was the S.L.P. prepared to unite on principles only, and leave all other matters to be voted upon by the membership of the new party. Comrade Judd pointed out that that could only be decided by a vote of the membership of the party.

After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the A.S.P. delegates report to their Executive that the S.L.P. delegates wished to know if the A.S.P. Executive would give its delegates the same free hand to devise a basis of unity, as the S.L.P. Executive had given its delegates, and the S.L.P. delegates were to report to their Executive the question put by the A.S.P. delegates. We have not yet received a reply from the A.S.P. Executive as to whether it is prepared to give its delegates the same free hand as the S.L.P. have to devise a basis of unity. Following this conference, the following letter was received from the A.S.P.:—

The following was the S.L.P. reply:—The General Secretary, Australian Socialist Party. Dear Comrade,—Your letter of January 21st, containing the question:—

Are you prepared to unite on Marxian principles? If so, are you prepared to leave all other matters to a vote of the entire membership of the united organisation?

has been sided by our Executive, and I have been instructed to forward you this reply:—The International Socialist Congress, held in Amsterdam in 1904 declared, in the first clause of its resolution on "Unity," that

In order to give the working class all its force in its struggle against Capitalism, it is indispensable that in each country there should be but one Socialist Party against the Capitalist Parties, just as there is but one proletariat.

About three years afterwards (early in 1907) some ex-S.L.P. members and others, in defiance of that declaration, formed what is now the A.S.P.—a rival Socialist organisation to the Socialist Labour Party. Unity is a basic element in scientific Socialist principles. The existence of the A.S.P. constitutes a violation of such principles. Therefore, the A.S.P. asks the S.L.P. to unite on the "principles" which the A.S.P.'s existence violate. During the April, May, June (1917) unity negotiations, and after the A.S.P. delegates had agreed that the basis of unity should include three matters, namely, name of party, and name of paper, the S.L.P. Executive was prepared to recommend to its party membership that it unite with A.S.P. upon Marxian principles, and that the name of the united party be the S.L.P., and that the name of the S.L.P. paper be the "People," the title under which the party had promulgated its ideas for nineteen years be dropped, on condition that the name of the "International Socialist" be also dropped, and a new name, such as the "Revolutionary Socialist," be adopted. The A.S.P. Executive refused to take a vote of their members on those proposals, and finally broke off negotiations. The S.L.P. Executive is still prepared to take a vote of its party membership on those proposals, and recommend their acceptance, on condition that the A.S.P. Executive submit the same proposals to a vote of its party membership.

The S.L.P. Executive has always been, and is still prepared to take a vote of its party membership in favor of unity on scientific Socialist principles and just conditions. Until the A.S.P. Executive is prepared to do likewise, the responsibility for disunity must continue to rest upon it. The S.L.P. Executive hereby challenges the A.S.P. Executive to take a vote of its membership on the foregoing proposals, or show wherein they are unjust. The S.L.P. Executive feel sure that if the vote is taken, and the case placed fairly before the A.S.P. members they will realise that the proposals are just, and vote "Yes."

As to the question:—
Are you prepared to leave all other matters to a vote of the entire membership of the organisation?

The question as to whether this organisation is prepared to unite with the A.S.P. or any other organisation, on any given basis can only be determined by a vote of the party membership. As the existence of the A.S.P., as a second and rival party to the S.L.P. constitutes a violation of scientific Socialist principles, and as the A.S.P. has in various matters violated such principles, thereby committing crimes against the working class (for instance, see Unity Debate, published by the S.L.P.), and as both the past and present officialdom of the A.S.P. has violated Socialist principles, dishonoured agreements with the S.L.P. regarding unity (for instances see Unity Debate, "International Socialist," 16/3/18, and the "People," 6/6/18), and as the membership of the A.S.P. appeared to have acquiesced in the perpetration of such matters (with the exception of the suppression of portion of a S.L.P. statement on unity, which the Sydney officialdom of the A.S.P. suppressed, after agreeing to publish it, but which they were, we have been given to understand, afterwards compelled to publish by the Melbourne Branch), this Executive feels compelled to insist that the name of the proposed united party, and the name of its official organ, as well as its principles be agreed to by the members of the A.S.P. before unity takes place as, among other things, an earnest endeavour of the A.S.P. members' intention to act justly.

The S.L.P. Executive gave its three delegates to the Christmas Unity Conference a free hand to devise a basis of unity, in accordance with the S.L.P.'s invitation to the A.S.P. to the Unity Conference.

The A.S.P. conference refused to give its delegates the same freedom, as the S.L.P. delegates had, and thereby rendered the conference abortive.

We regret that the A.S.P. Conference frustrated our attempt to secure unity. In conclusion we again challenge your Executive to either take a vote of its party membership on the afore-mentioned S.L.P. proposals or show wherein they are unjust.

From the daily press.—It is reported that 115,000 hands employed at Krupp's works during the war have now been reduced to 14,000. They are turning out steel and repairing rolling stock. The workers declare that they will never allow the works to be used for war purposes.

The S.L.P. of America.
Another Plot that Failed.

The S.L.P. of America has had a stormy career, not only having to fight the full force of capitalism but foes and fakirs inside and outside the party. The first scientific Socialist party in America, it had to clear the path and meet the obstacles of all pioneers. When De Leon became editor of the "People" in the early Nineties and threw the whole of his genius into the fight to build up the press and party, the lash of the S.L.P. was felt on the backs of every fakir, foe, and side-tracker of the working class. In the late Nineties an attempt was made in New York by a gang of disruptionists to capture the press and smash the party, but it failed. It was called the "Kangaroo" episode, and this breakaway from the S.L.P., fused with the Debs' faction and formed that hybrid called the Socialist party. Other crises occurred from time to time to smother the feared and hated S.L.P. but were always hurled back. De Leon, of course was the storm-centre, cursed, slandered and reviled, called Pope, boss etc., etc., but he smote them hip and thigh, and went on with his work and placed the S.L.P. of America and its press on the highest scientific and intellectual plane of the whole international Socialist movement. When De Leon passed away all knew that he left no successor as his equal, and the man who was selected as the editor of the "Weekly People," Edmund Seidel, was thought a fairly capable man, and though not a De Leon, that he would have lived up to the S.L.P. position and principles. For a while he did, but the last couple of years, Seidel began to tire of the long road—it was too narrow, it should be made broader. He longed for "unity," broad unity, like some people we have in Australia who feel lonely. A big movement, big meetings, big votes, and big easy jobs. As the S.L.P. could not be side-tracked openly then, a plot was hatched within to undermine it, and Seidel, the editor of the "Weekly People," was one of the principals in the great work, but luckily the wide awake and capable watchdog of the S.L.P., Arnold Petersen, National secretary, was on guard, and Seidel was charged before the national executive committee, and after investigation of the charges he was suspended by that body; a report made to the party membership, and the general vote taken on the action of the executive. Those are the facts in brief which we have gleaned from the papers forwarded by Comrade Petersen. The following letter, sent to Comrade Jefferys is printed for the information of our members and readers:—
Dear Comrade Jefferys:

I am in receipt of your letter of October 15th. Events have been crowding, one on top of the other, so fast that there have been times when I have hardly been able to breathe. We have just gone through a severe crisis in the party, a crisis which threatened its very existence. A group of disrupters, in conjunction with some visionaries, reform elements, and of course, the inevitable well-meaning but misinformed contingent, rose in rebellion against the organisation and conducted a campaign against the party which, for viciousness, virulence and anarchy compares fairly well with the Kangaroo outbreak in 1899. Some of the members who had been looked up to as staunch S.L.P. men, either fell easy victims to the disrupters, or very readily lent their aids, and in turn became leading elements among the disrupters. Of those who have sunk to the lowest level, Katz stands foremost. His fall, no doubt, seems all the greater, considering the fact that he had been placed so high in the esteem of the membership. I can find excuse for some of the other members who fell by the wayside, but I can find none for either Katz, Seidel, Hammer, Moonelis, Harrison, and a few others, of those who soon became the leaders in the flank attack on the party. They knew what they were doing, and they knew what the consequences of their acts would be.

You know that the N.E.C., after a thorough investigation lasting five days, decided that Edmund Seidel was not fit to be editor of the "Weekly People," and acted accordingly by removing him. Instead of permitting this matter to take its regular course before the membership, the membership to decide either in favor or against the action of the N.E.C., the dissenters and disrupters (realising no doubt that the membership would sustain the N.E.C. overwhelmingly), immediately began a campaign of slander against the N.E.C. and the national officers, in the hope of poisoning the minds of the membership. Katz lent himself to this work by permitting himself to be toured by the disrupters, visiting several sections at which he exposed himself thoroughly. The result finally was that the membership overwhelmingly sustained the N.E.C. Now that the decision has gone against them, they are setting up the cry for a special convention. They want to keep the party in turmoil as long as they possibly can.

I am sending you a lot of documents pertaining to this matter, as you will be interested in knowing just what is what. I think what

"ABILITY AND LABOUR."

(Continued from Page 1.)

before we bother about how the "Manufacturer" pretends to account for it, let us first see how he can account for it. How do we know that labour is "more productive to-day" than formerly? It is simply by labour being more efficient than formerly—that is, by the labourers being industrially more effective, or more able, than formerly; or, if you will, by the labourers having been drilled into more productive methods than formerly. At all events, we know that labour is "infinitely more productive to-day" directly because the labourer is an "infinitely more" efficient producer than formerly, or because the labourer has acquired "infinitely more" efficient productive methods than formerly.

Yet, three pages further on (p. 10), this impudent article impudently pretends to show that labour has acquired NO "new efficiency" for the last two thousand years!

Can you beat that for elephant cheek and impudence?

In the second sentence, this pretentious capitalistic article says: "The aggregate wealth of the world is vastly greater than it was then" (hundreds of years ago). And the writer afterwards lets us know, inadvertently, what he means by the "wealth of the world;" to wit, on p. 12, where he uses the phrase, "augmented by millions the wealth of the world."

By "wealth," then, is here meant that reality, which is called "value;" for value is the only kind of wealth denoted by the word "millions." This is important to notice, as we shall presently see. That increased "wealth of the world," which we are told is "augmented by millions" to-day, is directly due to three factors; viz., more labourers, more labouring time for those labourers, and a greater degree of intensity of their labour.

After having just fatally declared the "infinitely" increased productive power of labour, this eminently silly article asks in the fourth sentence: "Has the muscular power of the average man increased?" And, probably because men have not become elephants, this very silly article then proceeds to seriously answer with an "emphatic" No!

As though elephant's work and bullock's work were the human work that you must necessarily pay human beings for! Or as though "muscular power" were the same thing as the "productive" power of non-luminate human labour!

It seems that, whilst the average muscular power of man has "emphatically" NOT increased, nevertheless the wealth of the world has been "augmented by millions," this writer tells us, by "brain work" or by "ability!" The "reasoning" of this wonderful tale exhibits to us the shameless low cunning of the "stunt," the wooden cunning in which the inventor's "brain work" is used, as a stalking horse, behind which to usher in the so-called "brain work" of slave-drivers and blood-and-muscle-sucking parasites!

On page 7 we are introduced to "mental labour," or the "brain worker," who invents "the countless inventions of modern times." On page 8, we have that other "brain worker" insinuated—that "specially able business" man who has "enormously" increased the "productivity of manual labour." On page 9, we find that, by means of this "specially able" brain worker, "the commonest labourer... is made to" labour more productively; and the increased product of this labour (look out, now!) is really NOT the product of this labour (!), but it is, on the contrary, if you please, the product of those "brain-workers" by whom "the commonest labourer... is made to work!"

For such bare-faced brutal stuff as this to be in print seems well nigh impossible! But I am giving you the pages! This is on page 9!

On page 10, we go back and get a "quote" from the "Brain Worker" who is quoted as Mr. W. H. Mallock, whose method is quoted. Here we are introduced to "ability"—"the ability of the Watts, the Stephenson, the Arkwrights, the Bessemers, the Edisons, and so forth." At the lower end of this page 10, we find that old acquaintance, the other "brain worker," again insinuated, this time as the "special directive ability." Then on page 11, the "ability" of inventors, which had just developed so easily and insensibly into "directive ability," evolves a step further, and becomes "the ablest men" or the men of "business genius." One page 12, it becomes the "industrial talents" (of men whose proper title would be "talented slave-drivers"). On page 14, it is "exceptional ability" in two places, on page 15 it is "business ability" for half a dozen times, and on page 16, it is "ability" again and again. On this page 12, we read the lying statement that "in industry it is the few and not the many who have... augmented by mil-

lions the wealth of the world." As we have already seen, the word "millions" in the passage puts the whole show away. That particular product, which, we are told, is due to "the countless inventions of modern times," or due to the "brain work" of "the Watts, the Stephenson, the Arkwrights, the Bessemers, the Edisons, and so forth"—such increased product is unmeasurable by commercial weights and measures. But that "wealth," of which we say there are so many "millions," is always "value"—in other words, days and hours and years of embodied labour, measured by "millions" of money. Millions of "wealth" means millions of value, or millions worth of embodied labour. A "million" of wealth can only mean so much "value," or so much embodied labour-time (that "time" which "is money"), or so much embodied human-labour; and "augmented by millions" can only mean augmented quantities of value, or augmented quantities of embodied human-labour as manifested in the treasures of gold and silver.

The only way possible, to "augment" the wealth of the world, can be "augmented by millions," is by the embodiment of more human-labour of "the many" into products. This is the reason why the labourers, "the many," are always expected to keep on "for God's sake" working, and "augmenting;" even while the "brain worker," of "the few," rests his "intellect" and sojourns up the cool mountains!

There are other things in this impudent and brutal article; but they only serve as covering and padding and frills, fitted around what I have given above. The above summary constitutes the rotten heart of the so-called "argument" from the "Australian Manufacturer."

We must now get at the heart of the answer from "Radix."

At the outset, we encounter a rather bad fault. Radix appears to go for a walk for about four pages during which he is unlucky enough to pick out what he calls Marx's "one fault."

Now, despite the idle words and empty vapourings and flatterings of Mr. Editor Ross, "Radix," is really not qualified to up and tell us about Marx's "fault" and Marx's "failure." And it is quite unseemly of "Radix," as it is also distinctly bad in literary form, that he should have held aloof from crushing his brutal opponent while assuming to find fault with his own avowed and peerless master. "Radix" ought to have smashed the brazen "argument" of the "Australian Manufacturer" to smithereens, and then dealt it out to some of the "vulgar" little bits—showing their inherent "vulgarity" and nothingness, and sweeping them contemptuously away into a mental dustbin. If he had taken the proper working-class viewpoint instead of bothering with the useless and desultory viewpoint of the so-called "intellectuals," I believe Radix could easily have done it; and then there would probably not have been any second appearance from the stupid and extremely impudent "Australian Manufacturer," who affects to be so super-sensitive to what he calls "Billingsgate!"

At length, on pages 20 and 21, "Radix" epitomises the claim, set forth by "The Australian Manufacturer," upon labour's increased products. And then he goes on to "bewilder" the said "Manufacturer" by granting "its validity!" One could as easily "bewilder" a pole axe by giving way to it!

Well, whether the "Manufacturer" were obligingly "bewildered" or not, it is certainly most astonishing to find such a common and "vulgar" capitalistic claim allowed (in these awakening times, too!), and in the name of "Socialists!"

Not only does Radix grant the manufacturer's claim as valid; but, in granting it (and in the same sentence), Radix actually shows us why he should never have granted it at all, for he calls this very same granted claim, "The veriest cant!" Radix ought never to have granted any claim which is "cant" for "cant" means "insincere talk;" and "insincere" means "without truth."

We have already seen the heart of the claim whose "validity" is so wrongly granted. "Brain workers" happen along, with "inventions and discoveries," to show the "Manufacturer" how he may better exploit the working class, just as another "brain worker" may point out to the burglar how he might more profitably "crack a crib." As a Martian scientific fact, the "Manufacturer" functions as a capitalist, only by ringing "unpaid labour" out of the working class. And the ingenious "brain workers" come along with their new-fangled contraptions, and show the "business genius" how to wring even more "unpaid labour" out of the working class, and thereby how to better compete with other labour-skimming capitalists in the market. "Radix" tells us, on page 32, that the "brain workers" whom we thus find coming along with the "manufacturers" against the working class, "ought to join us!" Besides the ingenious and inventive labour-exploiting "brain worker," other "brain-

workers" come along with "business ability" and "directive ability" and the "mental power of the few," as well as the "special ability and fitness for industrial enterprise." In other words, these other "brain workers" are "intellectuals," those capitalist brains, some of which are as absolutely the best brainworkers, and slave-drivers that the world has ever been cursed with; so that a "vast increase of wealth is the result." Then Radix grants the "validity" of this modern brute's "case for ability as against labour," if only the brute be not the "possessor" or actual boss. The "Australian Manufacturer" claims, "for ability as against labour," what amounts to this: that since "brain workers" cause the labourers to produce "infinitely" more and more wealth, the labourers ought to cheerfully consent to be more and more worked, and also to more and more be thankfully skinned of their "infinitely" greater labour product!

And Radix agrees! Let us here taken in a breath of inspiration, we read:—

"The fact that the workmen, when the productiveness of his labour has been increased, produces, say, 10 times as many commodities as before, and thus spends one-tenth as much time on each, by no means prevents him from continuing to work 12 hours as before, nor from producing in those 12 hours 1200 articles instead of 120. Nay, more, his working day may be prolonged at the same time, so as to make him produce, say, 1400 articles in 14 hours. In the treatises, therefore, of economists of the stamp of MacCulloch, Ure, Senior, and tutti quanti, we may read upon one page that the labourer owes a debt of gratitude to capital for developing his productiveness, because the necessary labour-time is thereby shortened, and on the next page that he must prove his gratitude by working in future for 15 hours instead of 10."

And now, just as though he were a living part of the "tutti quanti," here is "Radix" chipping in and helping the "vulgar" MacCulloch crowd, by granting "its validity," and afterwards, on page 32, by urging that "ability must be duly recompensed." And he is unfortunate enough to say that this is the "urge" of "Socialists!"

It is not always easy to see the viewpoint of others. But if it should come to the world-wide question of working-class rights, or natural and moral rights, the so-called "brain-worker," who by his "ability" sees an easier way to produce wealth, has a perfect right to buck in with his "ability" if he can, and produce the wealth which he requires to live upon in his own easier way. But he has no right (outside the present capitalistic right), either natural or moral, to harness up, with his new fakes, nor even to help others in harnessing up, his fellow human beings for exploitation, and for ever "infinitely" better, and better exploitation!

We class-conscious workers plainly tell these mental upstarts—these self-styled "intellectuals"—that we do not concede the right to anyone to come along and "brain-work" our muscles. Let these self-satisfied "brain workers" go and work their own muscles! These self-esteeming "few," with their "ability" and their "special ability!" Instead of working the working-class to more and more produce their "infinite" easy living for them, let them go and easily produce their own living! We do not allow them or anyone else any right whatever to put the beverage of their "brain work" on to our muscles.

Marx tells us in effect, on page 516, that the natural industrial co-operation, between human brains and human muscles, becomes distorted into capitalistic coercion, and that the brains even become the deadly foes" of the muscles. We find it easier, and we consider it to be more brainy, to believe Marx than to invite our "deadly foes" to come along and "join us!"

It will be beneficial to open page 149 of "Capital," where we may read about the Roman Villicus. As "overlooker of the agricultural slaves," doing less labour, but more "business work" (i.e., the Roman Villicus needed less nutrition—and he got it. But Radix would allow that such a person is robbed! and that such a person ought to "join us!" It is true that he draws a distinction, on p. 30, between the inventing brains (presumably) the brains of a "Taylor system," but the distinction really amounts to nothing so far as the labourers are concerned—it is merely a difference of degree, not of kind, something like the bourgeois quack-quack about "fair profits and 'fair day's work," etc.! If "brain workers," so called (whether inventors, or industrial drivers, matters not a straw), should "join" the working-class movement, then this means that the "deadly foes" of each other should start loving each other! Accordingly, so the authors and donkey drivers, and the whip-makers and donkey drivers, ought also to join the asses against the "possessor" of asses! And why should not slaughter-men and drovers "join" the sheep and cattle against the master butchers!

(To be continued.)

AMERICAN S. L. P.

(Continued from Page 2.)

I am sending you includes everything, I am sending it by registered mail to insure delivery (but perhaps that does not insure delivery after all). Acquaint the other comrades with the facts and let them form their own conclusions.

Since you mention Dannenberg, I feel it my duty to call your attention to the clipping from the "Weekly People," which I am enclosing. Dannenberg is as wretched (though possibly more so) as the Katz-Seidel combination. He is the most brazen and unscrupulous liar it has ever been my misfortune to meet. He has openly attacked the organisation in his magazine, and I feel that I am not going out of my way when I warn you not to give him any encouragement of any kind. I was very sorry to see Comrade Moroney's article on the Labor movement in Australia in his magazine. That sort of thing gives that element a prestige which they certainly do not deserve, and which inferentially reflects on the national organization of the S.L.P. I intend to write Comrade Moroney directly, but have had no time. What I am saying to you now may be considered to be said to Comrade Moroney also. If the comrades in Australia have any time to write for publication I wish they would send it to the "Weekly People."

ARNOLD PETERSEN, National Secretary.

Cessnock Branch Activities.

Very successful meetings have been held of late, and to judge by sales of literature and the earnest attentive manner in which the large audiences have listened to the speakers, one cannot but realise that the workers are beginning to cast around for some more effective method of fighting the ever-increasing encroachments of the master class and are evidently becoming wise to the fact that part-methods, politically and industrially, have to go by the board. Hence the interest manifested when Comrade McDonald and Johnston visited Cessnock last week, Feb. 2nd, and delivered addresses, showing the vast expansion in wealth production that has taken place during the last four and a half years of war and its consequent effect on the workers in the near future. This meeting was held on Saturday night, and, on the following Sunday, comrades journeyed to Kurri Kurri, where Comrades Charlton and Johnston spoke to very appreciative audiences, and where good sales of literature were effected. This week-end meetings were again held under auspices of Newcastle O.B.U. Propaganda Committee, when Fellow-workers, Wood and Sinclair—the latter of whom is honorary organiser for Newcastle O.B.U.—showed the case for the O.B.U. and the urgent necessity for linking up with same in order to organise on thoroughly class conscious lines, and take and hold the means of production.

Comrade Kelly, of Cessnock S.L.P., was chairman at Cessnock meetings, and Comrade Prideaux at Kurri Kurri. Literature sales totalled £2 11 0. The whole of our stock of "Judd's Speech from the Dock" was disposed of, besides many "What Means This Strike" and other good pamphlets.

Newspaper despatches and private correspondence during the last four years have continually and persistently brought us the intelligence that millionaires and pauperism are growing apace in Sweden, as a result of the conflagration of the rest of Europe. There now comes to us by wire another piece of news which dispels all notion that Sweden is any longer a slow-moving, safe and sane, careful, mankind-preserving, half-developed Arcadia. It has been its boast in the past that its travel system was the safest and best cared for in the world; that Sweden was a country practically free from railroad accidents. The gruesome despatch tells of 350 dead, among them 50 children returning from their summer vacations, in a train wreck caused by a wash-out. Only full-fledged, profit-mad, capitalism can present such a spectacle!

Prof. Edward A. Ross says in an article on Russia in "Asia," a top-capitalist magazine: Perhaps a twelfth of the Russian people hate the Soviet system because under it they have lost their political power and their property.

And again: "What a spectacle would be offered to the world by the champions of the cause of world democracy engaged in warring the land from the disorganising grasp of unscrupulous parasites, in order to restore it to parasitic noblemen!"

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