

# THE ACT



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ONE PENNY.

## "Ca Canny."

The Sun's Economics are Moonshine.

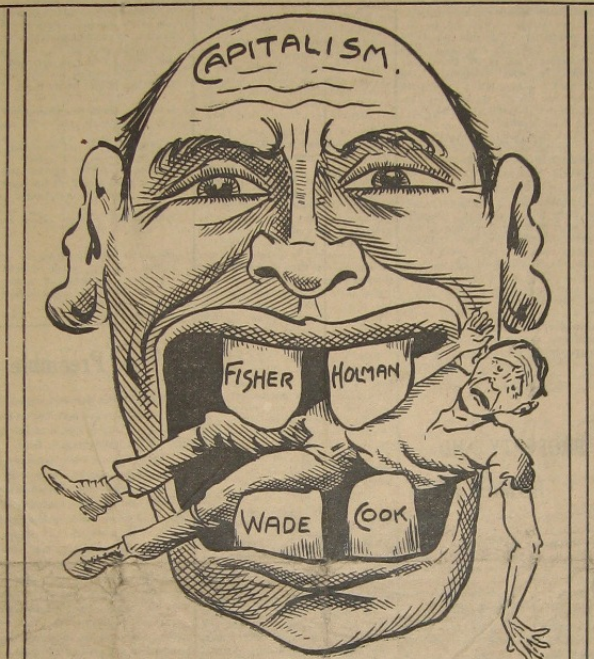
The employers in Australia lately have been kicking up a shindy through the medium of their press, because workers are more than ever inclined to show up on the job, or, in other words to adopt the "Ca Canny" method of sabotage. "Direct Action" is not going to follow the example of Trade Union officials, or the Trade Union press, and complain that this is a "gross libel" on Australian wage-earners. The unfortunate part of it is that the "accusation" is not founded on a universal fact. True or false, however, it is amusing to watch the antics and somersaults of the press in its anxiety to prove to the workers that the tactics of this kind are in reality dangerous to their own interest. The "Sun" of July 27th, for instance, in a leading article would have us believe that the wage of the worker is determined by the profit of the industry in which he is employed, and draws a picture of the capitalist and a workingman helping themselves conjointly to their share of the total product, and each suffering in consequence of its diminution. The better the total yield of an industry, the bigger is the fund of profit into which the workman can dip, he argues. The "Sun" economist is happy to remark that the boss's string runs at the end of the ear and helping himself without hindrance as a consequence of his industrious habits. The "Sun's" argument is not new. It is as old as capitalism itself. It may be said to have found concrete expression some three-quarters of a century ago, when the workers in the manufacturing towns in England began to have a hazy notion that they would be as well off by working ten hours a day instead of sixteen.

The "Sun's" of the period like the "Sun" of today, is vehement in their denunciation of such an "insane idea." All the brains of the prostitute scribes of capitalism, from University professors downwards, were utilised in a common endeavour to prove to the wage-earner that the longer and harder he worked, the bigger would be the fund of profit into which he could dip.

The same instance which prompted the writers of that period to result against exploitation, is evidence to-day, wherever the agitator goes for a shorter work day, that the "Sun" and its kindred methods of curtailing the output, are employed.

The workers are consistently so subconsciously aware that their well-being does not depend upon the amount of wealth they produce, but upon the amount necessary to keep them in physical trim to continue producing. The more intelligent of them also recognise that the amount has a tendency towards the lowest possible amount, while numbers of unemployed are standing at the factories ready to take their places. They know, too, that these unemployed are a standing refutation of the "Sun's" "economic" argument that employment is plentiful and "as good" by the better effects that the workers employed, and that, on the contrary, the longer they also, they work, the sooner they, too, will find themselves on the streets in consequence of a glut in the manufacturing process.

The history of capitalism, too, is full of cases of early day, too, to show that the workers do not benefit by increasing the output,



**ALL GOVERNMENTS ARE CONTROLLED BY THE CAPITALISTS, WHETHER CONSERVATIVE, LIBERALS, LABORITES, OR SOCIALISTS. THE WORKERS COMBINED INTO ONE BIG UNION CAN ALONE DICTATE TERMS TO THE CAPITALIST, BECAUSE ON THE SURPLUS PRODUCT OF LABOR, IS BASED THE SYSTEM OF EXPLOITATION. ORGANISE, YE WORKERS, FOR THE MASTERY OF THE WORKSHOP, OF INDUSTRY, OF SOCIETY.**

but that one of the prime causes of unemployment and the misery which follows in its train, is because they produce too much and not too little.

Curiously enough, an unintentionally ironical commentary upon the argument put forward by the "Sun" appeared in the "Sydney Morning Herald" of the following day.

In its financial columns a writer discusses the "relationship" between "profits and wages," and gives the views of the judges of Arbitration Courts in Australia and New Zealand on the subject. The "view" of Judge Higgins, who, by the way, is supposed to be the most "sympathetic" to the workers' demands, is typical of them all. He says: "The minimum wage which I am authorized to prescribe must be primarily based on the needs and the qualifications of the class of workers concerned, not on the affluence of the employer."

The judiciary is merely giving expression to the actual so-called "relationship" of wages to profits, and no amount of verbal juggling by the "Sun" can alter it.

It is true, of course, that Judge Heydon told a witness in the Arbitration Court the other day, "I do the more profits the employers made, the higher the wages they would be enabled to pay," and a week afterwards put a workingman's wife into the witness box in order to ascertain how much it cost her a week for picture shows. But these little idiosyncrasies and inconsistencies of £30 a week parasites are part of the price workers

pay for the beautiful 'principle' of Arbitration.

We take off our hat to the "Ca Canny" workers of Australia, and all other capitalist countries. The day of their emancipation is at hand when the principle is carried to its logical conclusion, by a universal refusal further to submit to the dictates of any social parasites, legal, political, or economic.

— THOS. GLYNN.

## "The Land of Plenty."

Times out of number one reads of New South Wales and Australia generally, as "the land of sunshine," a place where everybody enjoys life and misery does not exist.

Such statements look all right on paper and may be gulped down by numerous ignorant working men in other parts of the world, who have been unfortunate enough to come in contact with the "boss" (manager) (politicians) on their annual health-recruiting, ramblings abroad, or who happen to come across their deceiving advertisements in the press of other countries.

A great percentage of workers in this so-called "land of plenty" are compelled at certain periods, to go through an unemployed stage, whether they like it or not, because the buyers of labor power have overstocked their warehouses, that production must be curtailed until a market has been found for this over-supply.

The employers of labor do not

keep workers employed from motives of philanthropy, but from motives of profit, even in this supposed "land of plenty."

There is no country under the sun where the working class enjoy life to the fullest extent; they work too hard and too long to know that there is such a thing as life. Such a state of affairs will always exist until they shorten the hours of labor, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and run them in the interests of the workers, and not for the benefit of idlers as they do today.

The Industrial Workers of the World are continually trying to awaken the slumbering class consciousness of the workers in every country where they are exploited, so they will organize in their own interests and achieve their industrial freedom.

This is the only road to the "land of plenty" for the working class. Remember the capitalist's Paradise is the worker's Hell.

C. VINCENT.

Ballet lessons, skaters, ice escapes, and lunco steers all over the I.W.W. That's why the Labour Party are trying to stamp it out of existence.

When Holman was in N.Z. he stated that the I.W.W. did not exist in New South Wales. Evidently he was suffering from short-sightedness, but since being posted by the optician, and his eyes restored to normality he has discovered that its existence is more than a far-

## New Zealand and Its Federation.

### The 'Borers' Bogged.

The report of the July Conference of the United Federation of Labour has come to hand, and makes very interesting reading for the militant industrialists of Australasia.

It is quite evident that whatever the organisation may have been in the past, that it has now reached that stage where it ceases to be a revolutionary factor, and a help to the legislation-ridden workers of New Zealand. A few militant delegates endeavoured to make their voices heard and their influence felt, but they were stifled and outvoted by the harnessed crowd who hail from the easy chairs of the various Trades Halls of the Dominion.

The militant miners will scarcely be pleased with the results of the conference, after all the money they have thrown into the organisation during the past six years, and the efforts put forward by them to organise with some degree of efficiency their class in New Zealand.

Some six years ago the miners and their Federation condemned the Arbitration Act and the Trades and Labour Councils, and formed a separate organisation which ultimately took the name of the "New Zealand Federation of Labour." From that time onwards they conducted a militant agitation against the Act, and against the reactionary craft union officials.

And now they are back once again under the thumbs of the Trades Hall, who grasping their opportunity, will undoubtedly use the organisation for their own material ends, to finance elections, etc. No wonder the labour movement is in a parlous condition in the Isles of Borrow and "resolutions."

Mr. Hughes' precious preamble has been adopted, but I am of the opinion that even such a preamble will be far too advanced for an organisation whose shining lights are such sage philosophers as Messrs. Fagan, Long and Sullivan. The "cop 'em all in" policy has resulted in an impotent and spineless force, which ought to make industrialists like "Banjo" Hunter and Tim Armstrong bring to see the futility of "boring from within."

Still, legally and constitutionally have one again acquired control of the N.Z. Labour movement, and from present indications it seems as though there is going to be another stage of craft union scabbery and political juggling.

The capitalist class and their Press have often condemned sabotage and direct action, but the new Federation goes one better. He would chop off the heads of the advocates of such philosophy. And Mr. Sullivan's naive reminds us of that cruel struggle waged in Waikato, when one of the most militant unions fought for six months and several times, and treacherous allies, the officials of the Trades and Labour Councils. But, however, which they passed over their heads, very good memories at any time, a fact upon which the new shining geniuses of the U.F.L. can congratulate themselves.

But the miners may remember the death of Fred Evans, the thousands of wasted workdays, which they passed over their heads, and rightly, refuse to finance, or affiliate with an organisation whose president was the statistarch agent of the scabviest sheer ever preferred in N.Z., the infamous "Voice of Labour," which was

Continued on Last Page.

Direct Action



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THE COLORADO STRUGGLE

A "SOCIALIST" VIEWPOINT

Some half-bred "revolutionaries" see incidents of the class struggle in a word fight whenever the words "direct action" or I.W.W. are mentioned in connection therewith. The more remote the connection is, the greater appears to be their difficulty to express themselves in language appropriate to aspiring Parliamentarian "Bums," "Socialists," "hoboes," etc., as their stock-in-trade on such occasions.

The I.W.W., as an organisation, was in no way connected with the fight recently signed in Colorado, yet a scab signing himself "Dominicus" in the "International Socialist" of July 18, seizes the occasion to fulminate against the formation of direct action in general, and against the "anarchistic," "hoboes," I.W.W. in particular. With the partisanship and prejudice which characterise the political socialist type of human, he ignores the fact that the I.W.W., unconsciously, has stress upon the fact that the only kind of force or power worth a tinkers cuss to the working class is that which can be wielded through scientific, industrial organisation. "Dominicus" seeks, however, by inference to put the blame for the Colorado massacres upon I.W.W. shoulders, and has a passing sneer at the miners, who possess no better, against such treacherous odds, as "mainly from the Balkan States where they had puppets in a capitalist orgy of blind lust and plunder." Truly, what beautiful sympathy the "socialist" shows for their would-be-saviours whenever they endorse an act for themselves.

As already stated, the I.W.W. does not advocate the use of the rifle, matter of any quality, but as a matter of course, it is its ally, and is recognised, and we fight it as a means to Socialist political ends. It is to be regretted that the "Bigger, Hittler" type, that the ballot after a long day, is an all-powerful weapon which socialists believe it to be. That does not prevent us, however, from recognising that the action of the Colorado miners was the only course left open to them under the circumstances.

stances. "Dominicus" is so full with fury against the advance of any form of direct action, that he carefully refrains from mentioning that it was not until their wives and children were massacred by the Rockefeller thugs that the miners attempted to retaliate. Or perhaps "Dominicus" is one of those wretched "revolutionaries" who wields the white flag over the bodies of murdered women and babes and will for five years to roll by in order to have a shot at the enemy with a ballot paper.

In his eagerness to discredit an direct effort of the workers to defend their interests or their lives, this "socialist" luminary falls into ludicrous inconsistencies, and unintentionally boosts very form of "direct action" which he set out to condemn. "Contrast this direct action in Colorado," he says, "with the direct action of the Portuguese capitalists who expelled King King." These latter "direct action" time was ripe," he informs us, "captured the political machine with one bold stroke."

It is well followed the example of the political socialist, they would still be bombarding "the political machine" with hollow papers.

In conclusion, it might not be out of place to remark that a so-called socialist newspaper, might very well leave attacks on the Colorado miners to the capitalist press and to John D. Rockefeller and his cronies. Who is "Dominicus" that he should presume to lecture workers who have for the first time in many years, in the history of the United States, taught the exploiting class that murder can not be perpetrated with impunity, and who have shown their fealty to working class interests by the sacrifice of their liberty and their lives.

T. G.

PROPERTY AND HUMAN LIVES.

"Property is the most sacred thing in the universe," declared a Judge of the United States Supreme Court not very long ago. Not so human life. More sacred than human life is the eyes of the capitalist law and capitalist ethics, its evident from an incident which occurred in a London police court the other day.

A salmagundi was charged with advocating violence and calling upon men to "take up arms" themselves. On declaring that she was doing no more than Carson was doing, she incurred in defiance of the Government, that she was sternly told by the son did not advocate the destruction of property.

What does this matter about de-roying a few thistles bigger and Ireland whose religious biggers and passions are fanned into flame by scolding soundbells of the Carson type for purposes of personal notoriety and aggrandisement? Workers are cheap dross in the the boss' and property, but when this "Law and Order" is a hungry tiger. In the case under notice, she was shown his appreciation two months in goal. The moral is that workers should attract the attention of their weakest spot. It is the safest method of attack and defence.

SHORT ARM JOLTS

Don't pay too much attention to master's interests; you are apt to forget your own.

The same labor-power, used by the workers in industry for the benefit of a master class can be used for the benefit of the working class.

Don't shing to your job at any old price, at the age of forty you will be ashamed of yourself.

Don't compute with your fellow-man than you. Organize with him to make the job worth having.

The power of law is only created by the workers' submission to it. It does not emanate from politicians and law courts.

ADELAIDE ACTIVITIES.

Things in Adelaide, so far as the I.W.W. is concerned, are moving along steadily. Since the Free Speech fight in Port Pirie, the work of the I.W.W. have come up for general discussion. The capitalist press calls attention to many of the usual course of things by the I.W.W.

The request from the Labor Trades Council in Port Pirie in connection with the Free Speech fight, asking for the assistance of the organization in clearing municipal councillors, was received with delight together by the rebels. We have feared that fellow worker Reeves intends staying several weeks in Pirie as there are great opportunities for the I.W.W. to develop there, and he intends to concentrate his efforts on that local.

One of our soapboxers, H. T. Kelly, who has been secretary of the Adelaide local, has decided to go on his own in other parts of the State. (Broken Hill profit-mongers, please note.) Exploitation has ceased to exist in Adelaide in hundreds of places. It is slaves had better stay away until we knock off several hours and a lot of pain. Adelaide never contained a greater number of unemployed than at present, and the most deplorable in other parts of the State, begging alms, etc., prevent the slaves getting a clearer conception of the real cause of their trouble, as well as obscuring the remedy.

Our propaganda meetings are proving to be of greater interest than ever to the workers, and success from every standpoint to our credit. It takes a day to explain to the masses to get a grip of the economic problems which confront them, that is, in the main, as well as along with our work some real live rebels are joining our movement.

"Direct Action" is well read and freely spoken of on our various jobs. We are most anxious to increase the paper's circulation, and of course we are up against the movements and instigations of the existing order. It is an uphill fight, but it can only be carried on by sincere and undaunted rebels.

An "illegal" action by an intelligent saboteur caused a great sensation here amongst the master class during the day's baking dispute. One master baker, most prominent in his opposition to the demands of the men, suddenly discovered one useless. He could not believe it, might and lost 100 loaves. We hear so much of the supposed fact that the workers could never hope to carry on a sabotage without detection in the view of the "superior brains" the masters; yet in this case they might as well as to their eyes. Then, the men in small numbers, the I.W.W. have been honoured by the distinguished attendance of some half dozen noted detectives—also "no be generous, however, and credit them with having brains about to know why the weapon was used by the other workers were too respectable and too intelligent to follow the example of the solitary saboteur, so the masters took their own kind of final revenge. The masters are well acquainted with the gentle arts of Sabotage.

E. L. ROYALS.

N.Z. NOTES

"Our industries" is a common New Zealand at the present time. Mr. W. C. Webb, at Golden West Coast, was the first to make the suggestion to unite the workers for their mutual benefit. Or for Paddy's!

The U.P.L. Conference was disappointed as usual by the politicians. Disappointment at the job may create a reversion to unionism, but it is again.

The N.Z. Herald, the hoary Auckland sausage vendor, has discovered in Australia, the I.W.W. And, say, Granny, you always are. And, say, Granny, there are four still in N.Z. Cheer up, we'll see half don't get too lonely.

A YELL FROM BROKEN HILL.

[The A.M.A., we believe, prides itself upon being the most militant labor organisation in the Commonwealth. The following gross senseless abuse from the Barrier, a victim of the Arbitration and contract system so beloved of that institution, may not be poetry, but it is certainly common horse sense.]

Cursing, sweating and tugging  
With hammer, machine and drill;  
Down in the dungeon mines  
You slaves of Broken Hill.  
You are the pick of the market,  
But you are slow to understand  
That you are keeping the lay few  
Yes, you, of the horny hand.

You live in a shack that shames you  
You starve with your wife and kids;  
You stife the germs of miasma,  
And do as your master bids.  
You are on his curd agreements,  
That 'tilt you down for years,  
Yes, you cowardly crew, God d—  
You.

You signed it with blood and tears,  
Look at the streamer flying  
Which tells of a murdered man,  
Of the loss of his curd agreements,  
And the things we ought to hate.  
The owning class is callous,  
And they claim the right to kill.

Men, oh, men, will you stop it,  
You slaves of Broken Hill.

Workers, be up and doing,  
Discard your A.M.A.  
To hell, with its abominable  
Of fighting the boss to death  
With its courts and professed  
Can you not see, you rags,  
That they fix your hours and wages  
To please the master class.

Have you not heard you dabbled,  
The beat of the Rebel's drum;  
The tramp of the Industrial Workers  
With the cry, "We come, we come  
To preach of the revolution?"  
You crafts get wise and choose,  
You have a world to win, you shirkers,  
And tonight, but chains to lose.

Unite and fight for what is right  
And claim the right to reform.  
The pick, dock, your master gives,  
Join the Industrial Workers  
Take your place in the battle of life.  
Say, men, will you wake up brother,  
And fight for your kiddies and wife.

—TOM McMILLAN.

The Preamble of the I.W.W.

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.

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.

We find that the centring 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 another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another by wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

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

Instead of the conservative motto: "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work, we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword: "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class, to do away with Capitalism. The power of production must be organised, not only for the benefit of the workers, but also to carry on production when are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

How to Join.

Any wage worker wishing to join the Industrial Workers of the World if there is no branch of the I.W.W. in your district you may become a listed in the paper.

You agree to abide by the constitution and will you diligently study its principles and make yourself acquainted with its purposes?

Name  
Occupation  
Industry  
Street Address  
City  
State

The above applicant, having subscribed to the principles of the pro his desire to become a member of the industrial to the questions, expresses and is therefore recommended for membership. Workers of the World.

Local Union No. Infillation

Cut this out, fill in. Post to Sec. Tre., with Infillation Fee.

The shrieks of the old dog are but a further advertisement of his own weakness, and sabotage. Send in your subscription.

A bunch in Wellington are organising a local there. The I.W.W. stands for emancipation. Join it.

An immaculate "evolutionary" found Auckland is making a frank vote at the coming elections. Let us pray, brothers!

The Auckland local has taken a new lease of life owing to the advent of some of its former speakers who have been away in the country introducing new tactics to the "cobby" Auckland. The "cobby" loss is Auckland's gain. Let her get on, boys, the "Erd" will be pleased.

# SABOTAGE.

By WALKER C. SMITH.

## IX

"It will be met by the lockout," is another argument advanced against the use of sabotage. That is to say, the employer, finding sabotage in use in his factory, will cut off all his profits in order to try to save a portion of them! But let a lockout be used and will not wage workers have to be employed as soon as operations are resumed? Will not the employer have to hire the same saboteurs, who have remained unknown to him? If workers are imported, cannot saboteurs get on the job in the guise of sales?

A little thought on the subject shows that a lockout is impracticable in the face of Sabotage. No employer lockout on his force with any intention of keeping them out permanently. The workers must be re-employed. Their lockout experiences will drive home the class struggle more than would a thousand lectures on the subject, and many of them will return to work, as was predicted in the Lawrence strike, "with bitterness in their hearts and emery dust in their pockets!" The employers, however, resort to the lockout only when all else has failed. Even when using this weapon they seek to have it appear as a strike, and they launch it at a time favorable to themselves in every particular, and therefore unfavorable to the workers. They hope, by such a lockout, to cause the workers to lose faith in the strike as a weapon; failing of this the fact that workers strike because they must, and not through mere desire. They do not know that an agitator can cause a strike, no writer can call sabotage into use, no social revolution can be created and consummated, unless all the socially necessary elements of discontent are present.

The direct lockout, even when it serves the immediate ends of the employers, is harmful to their class interests as a whole. Even Gompers would scarcely dare preach "mutual interests" to locked out workers. Instead of blaming themselves for having struck, or placing the blame upon inefficient strike leadership, at the head of the workers is directed against the employers. Armed with a knowledge of sabotage, the workers return to their tasks, more terrible in defeat than in victory.

Nor can the military forces be successfully employed against sabotage. The employers could not long afford to have a soldier to guard each worker. The workers, in fact, would immediately rebel when placed under such espionage. Neither is there any surety that sabotage will not have permeated the army. It is there already and it is growing in force. Even were the workers to allow the military rule it would simply mean that sabotage would cease for the time being, to break out the more fiercely the moment the soldiers were withdrawn. The employers well know that their rule rests upon the peaceful acquiescence of the workers. They will scarcely undermine their own foundation by employing soldiers to massacre an entire force when a militant minority use sabotage.

Now that the capitalist class are ceasing even to perform the slight task of nominal superintendence in the industries (to which they hold legal title, they are entitled to absolutely no consideration at the hands of the actual producers of wealth. Their withdrawal also means that the slight remaining check to sabotage is being removed.

Eliminating all the obviously master class objections there remain two pertinent questions from the point of view of the class conscious wage worker. Does sabotage destroy working class solidarity? Will sabotage continue to discourage industry when the workers have taken possession?

Taking up the two questions in turn it can be shown that sabotage is not a boomerang that will return to slay those who use it.

## X

Working class solidarity is simply the result of a consciousness of power. Sabotage, by arming the workers with a weapon which the masters cannot wrest from them, adds greatly to the feeling of strength.

Mass sabotage is in itself a sign of solidarity. The concerted withdrawal of efficiency, by slowing down or other means, is sure to bind the workers close together. This is true whether they are organized or not. In case they are organized it gives to the workers a greater sense of security as well as additional industrial control.

Individual acts of sabotage, performed to the end that class benefit be derived, can in no way substitute against solidarity. Rather they promote unity. The saboteur involves no one but himself and is impelled to take the risk by reason of his strong class desires.

Solidarity between the capitalists does not seem to be affected by their use of sabotage. That they fight each other with that potent weapon is quite evident. That they use it upon the workers is also well seen. But nowhere can it be shown that there has been a division in the ranks of their fighting organizations, when the workers were doing battle against them as a result of their use of sabotage.

Various cases of this capitalist sabotage might be cited. Competitors of the Standard Oil Company often found that legal documents had been improperly executed for them. Rivals of the Sugar Trust had foreign materials introduced into their shipments, and in the fight of Haverage against Spirekols the latter's machinery had an unsupportable habit of getting out of order. A Denver brewing company almost ruined a competitor by hiring men to spread the story that a decomposed body had been found at the bottom of its rival's brew-ery. But when it comes to robbing the wage workers these capitalist saboteurs are "banded together like thieves at a fair."

Several of the so-called "muck-raker" magazines have been forced to suspend through the use of sabotage. Hampton's was killed in this manner by those capitalists who saw their interests menaced. The Appeal to Reason has been a sufferer at the hands of capitalist saboteurs who paid their dues as late and played havoc with the mailing room generally. Just imagine the effects upon capitalism were the Appeal to have its millions of readers apply the same tactics!

Upon learning that "accidents" had happened to fifty thousand yards of cloth, during the trial of Etor, Giovanniotti and Corso, Williams was reported to have said: "They are beating us at our own industry. Surely no one can seriously claim that sabotage in the textile industry has not helped to combat the various workers all the more closely together."

Even were it true that sabotage worked against solidarity to some extent, still it would have to receive consideration as an economic factor. It is sure to remain in use so long as we have production for profit instead of for use. It is co-existent with human slavery. No analysis of the labor movement is complete where sabotage is not accepted as a weapon.

Just as sabotage must differ in each industry so also must it change with industrial development. Should capitalism create an obligation to crush out all labor organization the attempt would be met by destructive sabotage. The degree of destruction would depend upon the measure of repression.

But should matters follow their present course, with the possibility of the workers gaining an ever increasing amount of industrial control, then labor's tactics will develop accordingly, with constructive sabotage as the result.

## XI

To every positive there must be a negative and in all cases destruction must precede construction. Therefore, there is no absurdity in the term "constructive sabotage."

Sabotage may mean the direct destruction of property. Again it may mean destruction through organized inefficiency. Or as an alternative it may proceed from a greater degree of efficiency than is desired by the employing class. This last is the point toward which sabotage tends when coupled with class solidarity.

The direct destruction of property for immediate individual benefit or to make a gain for a small group is but the following out of the theory of economic determinism. As such no revolutionist can condemn it. The indirect destruction of property for group benefit may also be a class warfare. Like the strike, the fear of its use has as great a power as its direct application. The constructive qualities, in such a case, comes from its power to solidify labor. A consciousness of economic might springs from the knowledge thus gained, that the employers have no power save that given by the labor of the slave class.

As solidarity is produced there comes an added feeling of responsibility upon the organized workers. Gaining more and more the control of industry they realize that ere long the management of the whole of society will rest in their hands. Sabotage, which is sure to be used so long as a slave class exists, will then take on a definitely constructive character.

It is already the trend for sabotage to be directed more against the product than the machine. As the idea of an injury to one being an injury to all sinks in more thoroughly we shall see products sabotaged in a different manner—constructively.

The workers are tending to see that their class is the one to whom adulterated food, shoddy clothing and rotten materials are sold, and by refusing to adulterate products they will not only destroy the employers' profits but safeguard their own lives as well. The bakers can gain the same result by putting the best of materials in the bread and pastry as they can by inserting coal oil. The secret refusal of packing house workers to handle rotten meats certainly is constructive from a class or social viewpoint. Yet such actions are as fatal to the employers' profits as is the direct destruction of products. In fact it does mean the destruction of alum in bakeries, of "slank" valves in packing houses, of "shoddy" in the woolen mills, and the destruction of capitalist property in profits.

The mass of workers are already proprietors. No tie binds them to one social civilization. Sabotage, for protection as well as for revenge, appeals to them. They have nothing to lose and much to gain by its use. Their economic condition calls for sabotage as a weapon against oppression. This mass must be impregnated with the ideal of working class control of industry so their sabotage may take on a constructive character. That ideal is already firing the brains and nerve of the hands of thousands of migratory workers.

Without apologizing for sabotage in any form, it can be said that constructive sabotage is destined to be a vital power in the class struggle from now until Capitalism falls and the industries are separated by the producers of all wealth.

## XII

With the workers in full control of industry it is evident that all able bodied adults will be required to take part in the productive process. This means an end to classes and class rule, the disappearance of the political state; and the carrying on of production for use instead of for profit. Industrial brotherhood will have ended the fertile civil war in industry and sabotage will naturally cease when the reason for its existence is removed. In an Industrial Democracy, where the productivity of the whole body would be reflected in the life of the individual and the acts of the individual in turn would be a contribution to all of society, it is inconceivable that sabotage would still be carried on. Any continuation of its use over an extended period would show the necessity for another industrial adjustment to secure the real objects of the revolution.

Should the victory of the workers be forestalled by State Socialism, or governmental ownership of industry, it would be a signal for an increased use of sabotage on the part of the industrialists. The governmental tendency to regard a strike of state employees as treason to be curbed by court martial, would be met by a strike on the job through the medium of sabotage. Many of the present congressmen have already stated that they regard the formation of a labor union among postal employees as illegal, and that a strike would mean nothing less than treason to the government. The postal employees need run no risk of being court martialled or even dismissed from the service. In mass sabotage they have a weapon which may be used in an entirely legal but none the less effective manner. They can obey the rules. The example was given by some Austrian postal workers some two years ago, as reported in the Saturday Evening Post.

## SHORT ARM JOLTS.

After the political reaction there will be a splendid opportunity for the One Big Union to take the lead and bump out the double wing outfit into the "Never never."

There has been a big slump in 8 D T propaganda in Wellington, N. Z., lately. Out of the hundreds of members, that were in the organization three months ago, there are barely a hundred financial members left. Politics was always thine.

Remember that whilst you are attempting to bolster up your craft and retain possession of it, industrial development is fast bringing about the elimination of crafts. Wage-worker seems better, but don't forget that the term "wage-slave" is arrived at by a scientific demonstration of what you really are.

When work is plentiful, go slow for the good of your health; when scarce, go slow to make it last until it becomes plentiful.

The boss tells you, "If a job is worth doing it is worth doing well." Make the boss the job.

"The right to be Lazy." Take lessons from master.

Don't strive to send a man to Parliament. No MAN would go there.

## LIST OF LITERATURE

Capital: Karl Marx, 3 volumes, per vol. 8s.

Value Price and Profit: Marx, bound 2s, paper 6d.

Sabotage: Pouget, bound 2s, paper 6d.

Right to be Lazy: Lafargue, bound 2s, paper 6d.

Militant Proletariat: Lewis, bound 2s.

The Evolution of Property: Lafargue, bound 2s.

The New Unionism: Tridon, paper 1s 8d.

Mr. Block Cartoons: Ribbe, paper 8d.

One Big Union: Trautmann, paper 6d.

I. W. W. Songs: 61 songs of rebellion, paper 6d.

Eleven Blind Leaders: Williams, paper 3d.

I. W. W.—History, Structure and Methods: St. John, paper 3d.

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Revolution and the I. W. W.: Pease, paper 3d.

How Capitalism has Hypnotized Society: Brown, paper 3d.

Song Book: Australian Edition, 15 Songs, paper 2d.

General Strike: Roller, paper 2d.

Direct Action v. Legislation: Smith, paper 2d.

Sabotage: W. C. Smith, paper 3d.

Economics of Labour: Quebb, paper 2d.

Summary of Marx's 'Capital': paper 2d.

Anti-Patriotism: Gustave Hervé, paper 2d.

Economic Discontent: paper 2d.

How to Overcome the High Cost of Living: paper 2d.

Industrial Union Methods: Trautmann, paper 1d.

Wage-Labour and Capital: Marx, paper 1d.

An Appeal to the Young: Kropotkin, paper 1d.

Chunks of I. W. W.ism: A. H., paper 1d.

'Solidarity': I. W. W. American organ; Subscription, 7s 6d per annum, posted; Single copies, 2d.

'The Voice of the People': The Lumberjack's I. W. W. organ; Subscription, 7s 6d per annum, posted; Single copies, 2d.

Look out for 'Hunger,' a play, by Ben Legers, in three acts. Will be off the press shortly.

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Sydney Local Notice

Monday Night—Bismarck Class.
Tuesday Night—Speakers and Reading Class.
Wednesday Night—Lecture in Hall.
Thursday Night—Business Meeting.
Friday Night—Railroad Street Meeting.

Adelaide Activities.

Meets every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, at Oldfellows' Hall, Moulton street, off Flinders-street.
Educational classes are held each alternate Wednesday, and all workers are requested to attend.

Important.

Free workers and locals are invited to send in reports of activities, news, parades and short snappy articles. Above all, don't send long, wide articles about nothing in particular, as the editors are bound to disregard them. Anything of a personal nature will not be entertained, although criticism is always welcomed.

Should any subscribers fail to receive acknowledgment of their subscription, the receipt of "DIRECT ACTION" will be sufficient to such.

LIST OF LOCALS
Adelaide Local 1: H. T. Kelly, Sec.
Brisbane Local No. 2: C. H. Beave, Sec.
Broken Hill Local No. 3: A. O'Malley, Secretary and Treasurer.

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Illustration, on a basis industrial unionism, a feature, and direct action, as a key will increase circulation.

Printed and Published on behalf of the "Industrial Workers of the World," by John H. Bassett, Chairman, 28, Queen's Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

The Navy's Life.

To the Editor, "Direct Action."
Will you kindly publish the following letter? I am working on a railroad construction job at Denmark. Things here could not be worse, except to rain and snow. The gangsters are the worst lot of slave drivers I has every been by. One of the few dogs ago had a missed shot, and actually doled the men 15 minutes while they were waiting for the hole to be re-charged. The same gentleman (12) sacked three married men who were sent all the way from Colbar by the Government, after letting them off just long enough to get their fare. We had a visit from Mr. H. Morris, organizer for the Railway Workers' Union, the other day, and in a speech delivered here, he told in a speech that workers on these jobs were never better off than they are today. I want to know if this gentleman is blind that he can say such things. Does he know how a man gets on who gets a job here and can't get tacked? He simply has to hang. Mr. Morris just said the workers' conditions by his own, and merely shows his ignorance of the conditions of those who are paid to serve. Men are passing their lives and their three day's working for a job, and think themselves lucky if they get one under these damnable conditions. We have to work through dirt, and are placed in such a position that should the river rise in flood we shall be under water. A man counts himself lucky if he has socks for his feet and a change of clothing. Those slaves who are thinking of coming this way had better sort out their lives. It is no use the workers blaming the masters for these conditions. We must get wiser and organized. A class to put an end to this hellish slavery is our only chance.
S. W. BRANNON.

Denman, 2nd 2, 1914.
Mr. Sullivan and the other high paid officials of the Railway Workers' and General Laborers' Association have been too busy flogging prosecuting workers who refuse to pay taxes to a real newspaper, to be able to give any attention to the troubles with which our correspondent deals.—Ed.

WORKERS!!!

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Russian Strikes.

Russia is the cradle of a proletarian revolution. The masses are rising as a class, are organizing, and are fighting their material battles. The Russian workers, however, are hopeless in face of such well-organized forces, so they expect outside help. These things can only be achieved by the revolutionary workers themselves. These things can only be achieved by the revolutionary workers themselves. These things can only be achieved by the revolutionary workers themselves.

Over 500,000 men in England were working last days ago to the tune of £2,000 per week's earnings. We read in the annuals of Australian industrial history that the Labor Government of New South Wales was the first to give a bonus to a "total" industrial strike. How the bonus must amply

The Shorter Work-day.

its Economics.

The commodity known as labour-power, or the ability to produce wealth, which is bought and sold in a market, just as is wheat or any other article, and like them it is subject to the natural law of supply and demand, and therefore it is under-stocked or over-stocked. Owing to this economic law, when there is a surplus of any commodity, its price falls and depreciates and vice versa. Long hours of labour, the introduction of newer and more modern machinery, "scientific management," "speeding-up" methods, all result in glutting the market, the surplus-workers are thrown out of employment to compete with those workers fortunate enough to have a job, and reduce their wages, besides making the position of the whole class more precarious and uncertain. This leads to the efforts of the industrial unionists that less work invariably means more wages, because it decreases the number of unemployed and reduces competition for the job, which wages automatically rise in the same ratio as the surplus of labour employed.

That collection of classes and conditions known as modern Socialism, which is based on the maintenance of a certain amount of commodities, food, clothing and shelter which, in turn, require a certain number of workers to produce them. If for one reason the productiveness of the worker increases, fewer workers will be necessary to maintain the same level of productivity. The result is that the demand for labour, thereby lessening the number of unemployed, as well as the physical and mental fatigue of the labourer and more leisure to enjoy life.

Many capitalist economists argue that wages rise and fall as the profits of the employers increase or decrease. They argue that employers will not produce more profit for the boss, which they claim will ultimately be to the workers themselves. As Karl Marx has shown in his "Das Kapital," while profit is unpaid labour, work done for which the worker receives no compensation, according to the social theories of these "Professors of Political Economy," therefore, the more unpaid labour we are robbed of, the more we gain, in other words, the more we give away, the more we have. A diminution in the output could only mean less unpaid labour, which would not affect the workers at all. The more profit the capitalist class receives, their power to crush the still further of the workers, and the more they are able to pay in like proportion. When we shorten our hours of labour we are weakening the enemy, because they will have less money to fight us with, but we are strengthening ourselves through controlling more of our product.

The more the capitalist increase his wages is by a reduction of hours. Though a temporary rise may be gotten by organization, the only permanent gain is to be had by normal activity. As the demand reaches a greater state of perfection it will certainly displace thousands of thousands of workers in all industries, which can only result in widespread misery and privation. The only real advance in the machine age is by the proposition which reduces the output, that is, by shortening the hours of labour of the workers.

What the "sanctimonious" strike leaders tell the workers is, in fact, a higher standard of living, better wages, and pleasant working conditions, with economy of employment. These things can only be caused by a strong, scientific organization, which is finally broken, not only to counteract the more modern methods, but finally to reduce output to a minimum, that is to abolish it altogether, and so to put labour in a position to demand a higher standard of living.

There is a very simple method for working more than a usual day to satisfy the wants of the world. It is to work above that level, so that the labourer, used only for the

Jail for the I.W.W.

Treachery of Politicians.

In connection with the prosecutions instigated against the members of the Domain on Sunday afternoon, indications point to the fact that several of this appears in print.

As stated in our last issue, lines were imposed by the Magistrate when they tried the cases, and fourteen days' grace were given to each of the accused in which the fines were to be paid.

Needless to say if the Labour Government waits for its revenue agents to give its character as being made up of members of the Industrial Workers of the World, its masters, the British financiers, will have long time to wait for their dividends.

The same day, on which the fines were imposed, Mr. Hall assured a deputation that interviewed him in connection with the matter, that he would not give his assent to any measure in giving his decision with regard to the remission of the sentences.

Ten days has since gone by, and the cowardly "treason" fraternity who have climbed into pay and office on the backs of the workers have not yet, apparently, been able to make up their mind to face the storm which will be raised by the I.W.W. if they do not benefit when they goal members of the circulation of working-class newspapers.

Whatever the ultimate outcome, however, the laugh remains with the I.W.W. The attempted suppression of our literature has meant a circulation hitherto not thought of by the most optimistic of our members.

The public may shortly expect to see members of the organization inside the four walls of a prison, while their fellow-workers on the outside are repeating the "offence" openly, defiantly, and challenging interference.

What will Holman and his satellites do? Traitors, we knew they were. But if they are cowards and cowards they will be remembered by the workers of Australia?

A gentleman by the name of Roth delivered a lecture on "Old Issues" to an audience in the Sydney Museum the other evening. He has a human body that the bones of the stone aged, left a large proportion of gelatin. "Now, remembering that the price of meat has risen, and the cost of bread is a lot of nourishment in old bodies, you may now expect to see every "bone" entering into the country cornered by workers cannot hope to beat the system even by the consumption of the same bones. Billy Hughes' trust-shilling anti's, notwithstanding.

The purpose of maintaining a herd of social parasites in luxury and comfort. Statisticians estimate that two hours work per day for all between the ages of 25 and 40 would maintain all workers in a far higher standard of comfort and leisure than the present day. If this is not true, there can be little doubt that it is possible with modern machinery and enormous output which is used in industry today, on 8 hours a day and need 8 and 10 hours, but the hardest necessities of the "Labour" (the workers) of the Organisation to shorten the hours of labour is the only organization which can handle this working class.

Education, industrial organization, higher class, even found by the Govt.

PORT PIRIE DOINGS.

The old saying "if only good things are done up in an 'small parcels' would not apply to the 'workers' Reeves and his work in Port Pirie. His clear and logical explanation of economics, and the way he has expounded the principles of the I.W.W., has set the slaves thinking round here. During the last six months he has had over sixty one new members join, and a large batch are coming in. The 'workers' have been duped, and are, as with Parliamentary action, although they have drawn it in with their mother's milk.

Nevertheless, at a large open meeting, we were attracted to join in a meeting, and we never fail to join in five rebels afterwards, who mostly are, we are pleased to state, young fellows.

We are the makings of a good local here and with the help of our "Mare," and rebels from our locals, we are booming.

Reeves holds three propaganda meetings at the "large gates," as the workers come off to join, and thereby has done a good deal of service, especially by his increased sales of literature.

We are endeavouring to bring out new speakers, as Reeves will be going away soon. We are also trying to get a hall of our own, and a library which will mean a further advance in the education of the workers of Port Pirie.

With the material that we are now joining up, we are positive that there will be no re-action.

L. F. ROBERTS.

Labor in N.Z., Continued from page 1

financed by the biggest employers in the Auckland district, and whose staff was W. P. Black, a person who sued the "Maoriland Worker" for a large sum to compensate him for a character that had not got sound and grand. The capitalist press has been pleased to refer to the new official as being "studious" and "immaculate," a splendid tribute to the "indifference" to the working class N.Z., but nevertheless, a religion that will not wash with that class of advanced workers who say that there is nothing in common between the working class and the employing class.

As far as the accompaniments of the Conference go, they have in their own constitution shown that there is no need for such a federation at all, and that the workers who desire to follow in "Trust buster" Billy Hughes' footsteps, and confine strikes to their narrow, and limited, local autonomy and centralism, are in the contradiction of a very glaring type, but at the same time, remarkable instances of the sagacity and perspicacity of "thoughtful," "studious" delegates. The only back-bader was given to the "irresponsibles" by the thoroughly responsible officials, who have never been responsible for anything except dictatorial commands to the long-suffering rank and file. We must congratulate E. Hunter on being the exponent of industrialism in his own days to get him in better company before long.

Existing social and economic conditions in N.Z. demand action in preference to politics; the labour unionism instead of Arbitration; propaganda of sabotage instead of sectional strikes, and Men in the place of back-scratchers, and business-heads, dead-beats and big-bosses.

The I.W.W. is coming into its own in N.Z., despite the sneers of the "Mare," the delightful inanities of Mr. Egan, the pitiful wails of the "Worker," the vituperations of political sentimentalists. They are all the more the allies of the revolutionaries industrialists.

The hybrid, doubling-outfit and brotherly love organisations have been working in the shadows and found waiting for us to organize the real rebellious workers of New Zealand, to flock to the banners of the Industrial Union of the World. Let us declare war upon Capitalism, and leave compromise to the opportunists and plausibility to the "Mare." We are not an organisation, the I.W.W., let us say with Shakespeare.

"I will, I will, that ends this strife."
"Second childishness and near oblivion, sweet sleep, will come upon thee."
TOM BARKER.