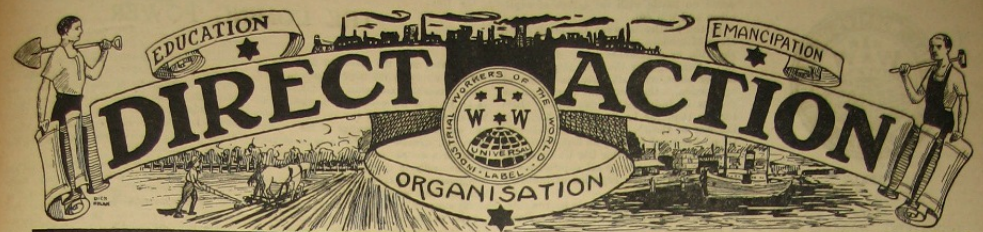


"An Injury to One an Injury to All."



VOL. 4., NO. 121 Registered at the General Post-office, Sydney, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper. SYDNEY, May 12th, 1917. ONE PENNY.

Release Agitation.

ADELAIDE.

Steady progress continues to be the order of things here. The agitation on behalf of our imprisoned fellow-workers is being carried on vigorously to ever-growing audiences. Keen interest is being manifested in the "evidence" upon which our stalwarts were convicted—the truth is gradually breaking its way through the thick incrustations of lies, ignorance and prejudice, and ere long will sweep away the capitalist cobwebs from the minds of the toilers. Literature is booming; the sales of "D.A." have increased to 12 dozen weekly; while pamphlets and leaflets dealing with the Sydney trials are eagerly snapped up. During the last couple of weeks we have opened up another meeting—this time at Post Adelaide—on Saturday evenings, now making a total of four meetings per week, with more to follow.

We have had with us last week our grand old fellow-workers of the Eureka Stockade, Monty Miller, who stopped here for a few days on his way through to Broken Hill. Although 55 years of age, he looks about 20 years younger, and has a splendid spirit, wonderful vitality, and energy that would put to shame many a younger man. While here, he addressed several meetings for us, all of which were most successful. In the Botanic Park on Sunday afternoon, he held the collection of a big crowd for an hour and a half, on the case for our boys, an amount of 32s being collected for the defence fund. In the evening he spoke again on "The Puff-bility of Politics," and in his remorselessly logical manner, proved his contention that the working-class can never gain their freedom by political action, and that the only possible hope for their emancipation is by means of the "One Big Union." He was cheered again and again at the close of his address. On Monday night last 30 or 40 boys and girls of the rebel clan assembled at a farewell social to our old warrior, to cheer him on his way. "Wobbly" songs made the ratters ring, while the needs of the inner man were well attended to. It was a great success from every point of view, the financial included. On Tuesday some of the boys went to the station to say farewell to and clasp the hand of our battle-scarred old warrior, fearless and true as steel, who, for 62 long and weary years has been a faithful fighter in the only cause worth fighting for—the cause of work-in-class emancipation. His name and his work will be enshrined in the heart of the working-class—remembered and respected when his persecutors, proven and betrayers have crumbled into dust, unknown and forgotten. May he be long amongst us to keep his honored place as a fighter for fellowship, fraternity and freedom.

Tours for Industrial Freedom.

BERT WALL, Secretary.

SYDNEY.

Activities in Sydney are going on apace. All propaganda meetings are well attended, and the audience generally sympathetic and attentive.

Domain meetings are still as large and enthusiastic as ever, and last Sunday Fellow-Worker Laidler, from Melbourne, and George Kerr, from Broken Hill, interested the crowd about things worth knowing.

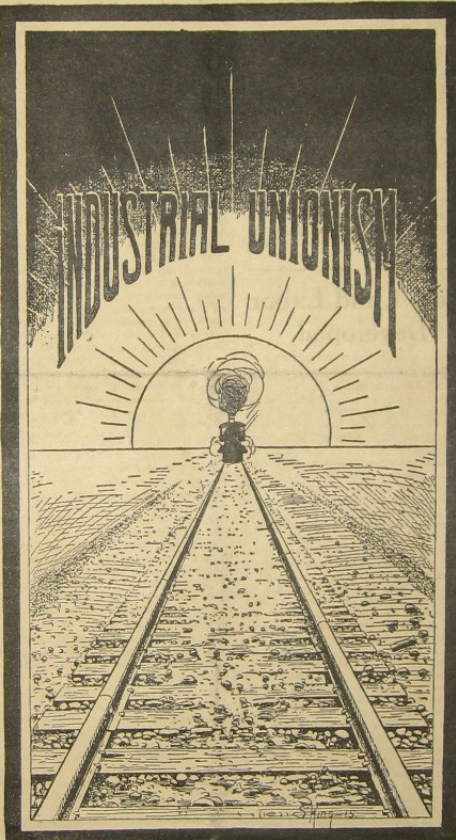
In the evening meetings were held at Park Street and Bathurst street, until 8 o'clock, when the crowd marched down to the "wobblies" hall, singing the songs of the working class.

At a few minutes past eight, and delivered an interesting address on "War and the Workers." Our hall, which seats about 600, is very much too small to hold the crowd, which rolls up to our Sunday night lectures, and is often overflowed meetings are held outside in Sussex street.

Sure, the I.W.W. is here to stay!

Write: What are captains of industry, Dad? Dad: They are fellows who cause wars, but never fight them.

Clear the Track.



THE RIGHT OF WAY.

CAIRNS, N.Q.

Fellow worker P. Petroff, says in a letter—
The members of Russian Local No. 12, realising the importance of the revolution in Russia, are returning to their native country at the first opportunity. There are always possibilities of a counter-revolution, and consequently all the forces of the progressive movement, must be in the country to counteract the attempts of the reactionaries. We intend to take all I.W.W. literature, buttons, and supplies with us to help in the establishment of the Industrial Workers of the World in Russia.

The Russian local held a very successful meeting in Cairns, on Monday, 11th, April. We had large red flags, on which was inscribed in English, "Long live the Russian Revolution," and "Long live Socialism." We had also several smaller banners with appropriate

wordings. It was a very successful demonstration and was attended by several thousands of people, who were much interested. Two of our speakers spoke in English and explained to the audience the causes and phases of the recent revolution. Fellow-worker Ivanoff pointed out why we intended to return to Russia, and that we were not going "back to continue the war of the imperialists, but the war of the workers against economic slavery imposed by the capitalist masters. Also that we would continue the fight for Industrial Unionism in Russia, in the same manner as we have in Australia.

We are forwarding £7 for the Press Fund, and pledge ourselves to help you to fight our enemies, and to carry on an effective program for the release of our comrades Joe Parau, and the other fellow workers now in gaol. With best wishes to all in Sydney.

Defence Agitation.

BROKEN HILL.

Monty Miller has arrived from the West. He is to deliver a series of lectures here, and endeavor to instill logic into the minds of the Barrier workers. A full report of his doings is promised to readers next week.

The local is sound as regards finance and numbers. Activities are still in evidence and a good militant spirit pervading the organization. Sunday lectures listened to by a packed hall. These lectures are brightened up considerably by musical items, recitations, etc. Everybody joins in the singing, and a very enjoyable and educational evening is spent.

The writer lectured last Sunday evening on "Capitalism, Its Cause, Curse and Cure." Intelligent questions were asked at the close, and a good discussion followed.

Our Russian comrades have formed a choir, and they assist greatly in both the indoor and outdoor meetings. Wobblies singing mostly is not all that it might be, but our comrades' choir leaves very little to improve upon. The Russian Fellow-Workers are an integral part of the local.

F. W. Flynn has gone to gaol for three months for assaulting a "Blue-Whisker." Bill Jewell and Jimmy Oates have also gone along for two months on a similar charge. These two latter are not I.W.W. members, but are, nevertheless, good rebels. Oates is the secretary of the local Defence Committee. It is rather gallant to be gaolod because of scabs.

Readers are promised a lengthy report next issue, which will be as interesting as can be written by—

HARRY MEATHERINGHAM,

Press Correspondent to "D.A."

PORT PIRIE, S.A.

Fellow-workers, send along two dozen May-day numbers, at a dozen per week in future, as we intend making the Port Pirie bombsheds out of their trace. This town is the slowest labour centre in Australia, so if you know any wobbly speakers coming this way, let us know. Wages are eleven bob a day, and work is plentiful.

I hope by the time I send in the next report that we will have a full down-Release and Defence Committee in full swing—Yours for Solidarity,

R. S.

MOUNT MORGAN, Q.

I suppose you know that there is a strike on here over the non-union question. A few are scabbing with union tickets, of course. The engine-drivers are still working, but that is to be expected of such high-class, aristocratic, complying slaves. The men are very solid, so far. A compulsory conference was held in Brisbane on Friday last, but it proved abortive. I expect the court will order the men back, and it should prove conclusively to the workers what these industrial courts stand for.

The wobblies are getting very strong here. The men are taking a ballot on the abolition of contract system. The boys on the Mount carried it by a majority of 10, but there is still returns to come from Many Peaks and from Island. Many Peaks will be a moral to carry it.

There is a good feeling of solidarity here that will be licked into something effective in a little while.

M. C.

And we'll march with the Red Flag ahead, For the blood of all nations is red; Come join in the fray, Come help us to-day, We are fighting for freedom and bread.

Workers, do you subscribe to your paper? DIRECT ACTION pleads your case. It is the fearless advocate of the slave-class. It solves the claims of the starving working-class. How about two bob for six months subscription? You'll not be sorry.

Direct Action



WEEKLY
OFFICIAL ORGAN

of the
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THE WORLD.

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Washington Street, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

The I.W.W. and
Violence.

The putrid journals of besonnet become very violent at times, and accuse the I.W.W. of advocating methods of violence. Trade union officials, when speaking of the I.W.W. have named the same "arguments" as the conspirators and the avowed enemies of labor.

We never expect fair play, reason, or justice from the master class, and we are not surprised at anything they might say or do. But the working man who brays about the I.W.W. preaching violence, only exposes his own ignorance, and proves to himself that he knows nothing about the organization he tries to criticize.

A study of the I.W.W. constitution and structure will prove that we are organizing the working class on lines that do not call for violence, and when the I.W.W. plan of organization is accomplished, even the violent attacks of the thugs, pimps and police can be frustrated. The I.W.W. is organizing to prevent violence. We claim, as an organization, to have progressed beyond that stage when open violence was necessary to win reforms. Such tactics today would prove a failure and the working class get the worst of the deal.

A working class organization which depends upon the use of violence for the furthering of its objects is unscientific, antiquated and dangerous.

Whenever the working class, of modern times, has resorted to the use of violent measures to gain reforms, the force has generally rebounded with disastrous results to the toilers.

In the past, acts of violence have been committed in which I.W.W. men have always acted in self defence.

All the acts of violence in which the I.W.W. has been mixed up, have always been started by the agents of the master class in an attempt to beat up our members, and smash our organization. In all such violent outbreaks, the I.W.W. men have always acted on the defensive.

We are organizing along lines that will make violence, on the part of the master and slave impossible, or, at the same time, under present conditions, do not check it, but enable us to turn the other ourselves against the Pussies, the bully, and the tyrant no matter where it may be.

The real believers in violence, and the men who preach and practise it, are the members of the master class. They have always, at all times, been ready to resort to all sorts of violence in their endeavor and exploit it in the working class in subjection to the master class.

Every day that passes over our heads reveals fresh acts of violence perpetrated by the master class. In the mines, mills, factories and workshops, the lives are sacrificed every day owing to the violence of the employers. The victims of capitalist oppression and force are innumerable. Despite all the treaties committed still say that the working class has no need to adopt violence in gaining reforms. The master class has the might; it has

the Power; it has the armed forces of law and authority to support it. It would be madness to think that the working class could do battle with the forces of capitalism and win out.

In the battles between the master and slave of modern times, the barricade and the rifle as arguments are doomed to fail. Far mightier than the bomb and the bullet, is the war of the folded arms. In this battle no life need be lost, no blood need be spilled. The power of One Big Union of the working class can stop all capitalist violence and bring the captains of industry to their knees.

The continual attacks made by the master upon working class unions plainly proves the power Industrial Unionism has. The violent measures resorted to by the cohorts of Capitalism to try and smash the I.W.W. demonstrates the smallness of our position, and what we are capable of accomplishing when once organized.

The employing class would far sooner see a thousand violent outbreaks by the workers than see them quietly settle down to organizing themselves industrially into One Big Union.

The masters know the Organized Labor with modern methods is all powerful. They know that once the toilers awake to the power they possess through Industrial Solidarity that their devices and schemes will be of no avail, hence, their brutal attack upon industrial propagandists.

The working class must keep their heads for thinking, and not expose them as targets for the thugs of capitalism.

The I.W.W. is the most scientific and up-to-date working class organization. Join it and you will be kept and over, and the workers will receive the full product of their toil in an Industrial Republic.

How Child Labor
Developed.

Children have been closely identified with the industries of the world ever since there has been any sort of manufacturing. In the early stages of man's development the children of savage tribes had their full share in cultivating the fields, hunting, fishing and trapping animals and in making baskets, rugs and articles of clothing. Later, on when tribes and clans separated into families, and every thing consumed was made at home, the children assisted their parents in building the house, caring for the crops and animals, preparing meals and making clothing. The guild system, which was the first form of modern industry, child employment was its basic factor, and very young boys were indentured to learn trades, while girls were trained to do domestic work. This system the old self-sufficing home gradually disappeared, and families began to specialize in one industry or another. In the next development, known as the domestic system, raw material for a particular industry was furnished by a capitalist to several families for the making of finished products in their homes, and the children, as an important member of the labor force, helped in the industry. For instance, in carding wool, the invention of machinery came with the system, which absorbed everything else and the employment of very young children was transferred from the home to the factories as a matter of course.

The unfortunate boys and girls were paid a miserable pittance, and given no opportunity for education at all—National Child Labor Committee.

Don't forget that shorter hours and longer pay always go together.

One Big Union of the working-class means that the boss will have to go work.

The politicians are talking about a tax on cats. We wonder if they can tax OUR cats.

The Brotherhood of Man cannot be brought about by necessary politicians; the workers alone can do it. Organize industrially, and put the parasites to work.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM.
THE COMING POWER.

In looking over the industrial field, the observer is struck by the large number of small, petty strikes that are continually taking place in all parts of the country. Sporadic outbreaks are the order of the day in all trades and industries. One section of the workers come out, struggle feebly in a futile attempt to defeat a united employing-class, and go back generally in defeat, or, at best after a compromise, to be followed by another section with the same result. And so it goes, a pitiful story of division and disorganization. These sectional strikes display not only a lack of organization, but also ignorance of that basic fact which, and must be the foundation of any working class organization if it is to cope successfully with present-day conditions. That is the class-war.

To the revolutionist the class-war is a reality. It presents itself as that constant struggle, the result of opposing interests, between the two classes of society which finds expression in the strikes and lock-outs, in the falling of agitators and the brutal attempts of the master-class to suppress militant unionism.

The development of capitalism itself has drawn the class lines more distinctly. Previously, in the early stages of this system, when it was possible for the worker, by hard work and thrift, to save a little money and become an employer himself, when each factory employed only a few workers, and the degrees of exploitation and robbery was not so great, the gulf which separated the two classes was not as wide, nor was the revolutionary movement so clear-cut and class-conscious as it is now.

But the machine made its appearance in the industrial arena. The skill which had been the main reason and strength of the tradesmen began to disappear, and the worker of the past. A new and more efficient method of the new form of production was the gathering together of a large number of workers, of widely different trades, in the one factory or workshop, where each, instead of as before, producing a commodity right from the raw material to the finished product, performing only a small part in the labor-process. A commodity could no longer be considered as the product of the labor of any one individual. It has to pass through the hands of many workers, each co-operating in the other, and adding his quota of labor, before it reaches completion.

This revolution in industry, which took place during the nineteenth century, rendered obsolete the form of unionism which had then functioned successfully. Trade unionism, based upon skill, was not in line with the new conditions. With the concentrating of a large body of workers into one factory, craft unionism became disunion, because these workers, who were the members of the same capitalist and of the same class, should have been organized together, instead of which they are divided into probably a dozen or more separate trade unions, each with its own narrow craft interests, and without regard to the interests of the working-class as a whole.

In accordance with these changed conditions there came into existence a form of organization known as industrial unionism—union by industry, instead of by trade.

In the first place, if we are to build up an organization capable of withstanding the savage attacks which it will meet, and if we are to wage successfully the fight for industrial emancipation, education is very necessary. It is to carry out this educational work, the order of the day, the order of the mixed local, is provided. Its purpose is to spread the knowledge of industrial unionism, to give the workers a voice, and to give them a chance to express their views. It is to act as a feeder to the industrial union, which is a recruiting force in its locality.

The Industrial Union is composed of all workers engaged in the same industry, in the

same locality or district. The term "industry" implies a recognition of the fundamental change in the mode of production which the invention of the machine brought into being. By "trade" or "craft" is meant only one stage of the manufacture. As a commodity, but "industry" covers every phase in the production of that commodity.

Then the industrial union combines all the workers employed in the same factory, work shop, mill, etc., no matter what labor they may be doing. Electricians, engineers, firemen, carmen, clerks, are all united with the workers who do the actual producing. For the purpose of adjusting job conditions, wherever necessary, the industrial union is branched into shop or job branches. The branch deals only with the affairs in the shop or factory, where it exists; matters which are peculiar to that job.

It is not a division of the industrial union, but an integral part of it, being only more effectively and speedily dealing with conditions as they arise on the job. All branches of an industrial union have representation on a central committee, which covers the whole industry in that locality.

The next step is the industrial district committee, which is formed of delegates from the same district. It is formed of delegates from the industrial unions, and maintains solidarity in that district. The point that must be borne in mind is that the I.W.W. is constructed from the bottom upwards, the officials have no arbitrary power in the administration of the organization. An law, or rules that may be adopted, become legal only when ratified by a referendum vote of the entire membership. Thus is ensured freedom from that stifling influence which has retarded and hindered the development of the modern industrial union movement.

Modern industry is confined to one district or even country, but spreads its conquests all over the world. Consequently, the industrial union on its own would be unable to cope with any degree of success against the poverty and capitalist class. To meet this difficulty, the I.W.W. constitution provides for the grouping together of the industrial departments of all the industrial unions of the world, or of closely allied industries. These industrial departments are six in number, namely, mining, food, water, and factory products, transportation and communication, construction, public service, and general production. The industrial union embraces every worker in that department, irrespective of craft, color, or race.

The I.W.W. does not stop even there. Complete though the foregoing plan of organization may be in some respects, it still fails to meet the requirements of a highly centralized industry. The next step is the linking together of the industrial departments to form the general administration, this completes the structure of an organization wide enough to narrow enough to exclude all exploiters and parasites.

In many of those upheavals which have dislocated industry, the capitalists in their efforts to break the strike, have used the workers of other countries. This was done during the big strikes in New Zealand a few years ago, and on numerous other occasions. Forseeing this, the I.W.W. seeks all the world, well knowing that it is only by an international organization that the problem can ever achieve their economic freedom.

Realizing that capitalist society, consists of two classes, one living upon the toil and misery of the other, the I.W.W. declares that the "working-class" and the "employing-class have nothing in common." As there is only one working-class, there can logically be only one industrial union working class.

By organizing industrial unionism, one big union of all workers, regardless of sex, race, or color, we will be able to stand that solidarity which can abolish wage-slavery and usher in the new social order.

FRANK CALLANAN.

The Cry of Toil.

By Rudyard Kipling.
We have fed you all for a thousand years,
And you had us still unfed,
Though they never a dollar of all you
But mark the workers' dead!

We have deluded you to a certain goal,
For, if you live on our best to give you real,
For, if blood be the price of our wool,
God's God! we had paid it in full.
There's never a mine blown skyward now,
But we've buried alive for you!

There's never a wreck drifts shoreward now
Go to work or we're ghatly crew,
And the factories are dead by the forgoes red,
If blood be the price of our wool, we spin,
God God! we had paid it in full.

We have fed you all for a thousand years,
From the factories of the earth, here in you,
To that strike of our lives ago,
You've eaten our lives and out babes and
And a new world it's your legal sin,
But if blood be the price of your lawful wealth,
God God! we had bought it fair.

The Case of Harry Melrose.

Harry Melrose, member of the A.M.A. and on A.M.A. business, has been gaoled for six months as a member of an illegal association, to wit, the I.W.W.

The Central Association Act governs the case, the I.W.W. is the measure having been declared an unlawful association for the period of the war and six months after.

If the I.W.W. be an "unlawful" association, it is permitted to remain an association? Why has it not been declared disbanded by proclamation?

But it seems that would not suit the book of the Government. It would be too open and honest to suit those in power.

The authorities declare that the I.W.W. exists, as "an illegal association."

It is insisted that the I.W.W. shall exist, seemingly for the purpose of being used as evidence against members of the working class, and to provide a political yell.

Melrose in his appeal put up so strong a case that the Judge Scholes refused to uphold the conviction without further consideration. That is to say, he entertained serious doubts as to the justice of the finding in the Lower Court.

But when we learned that the judge had turned away on this opinion, and that his decision was reserved, we prophesied that it was all up with Melrose—class bias would solve the problem.

This is not a charge against Judge Scholes. He is the running of things. We trust we should be understood that his crowd would cease to exist, as a class.

That, however, is quite apart from the manner in which the evidence was taken. It is not a matter that his Honor permitted anything to be used that the law framed by his class would consider unfair, nor is it to be thought that the barrier for the defence set quiet that all such sort of jokes might be put upon his client.

To begin with, his Honor took the line of argument that the I.W.W. constitution contains no clause nor machinery for the withdrawal of a man from membership. On the other hand, he held that, as the association had been declared illegal, no man could be compelled to remain a member against his will.

Why did not his Honor take the line of the Act itself put a period to all memberships?

According to his Honor, there is no provision made for resignations. This explains why members, when they wish to sever their connection with the I.W.W., simply drift out by becoming unfunctional.

If Melrose were in the "drifting" stage, it would be utterly impossible for him to show a clearance or a resolution that his resignation had been accepted.

Again, Melrose could not call an official of the I.W.W. to testify in his favor, as any official who did so would be providing evidence against himself.

"The law has no evidence to show how he (Melrose) had become a member at Broken Hill."

That is equivalent to saying there was no evidence to show he had become a member at Broken Hill. It seems to us that evidence of his membership here was totally lacking, beyond his own statement that he retired from the association last September.

Why should Melrose have made the gratuitous statement that he had been a member of the I.W.W. in this State, the authorities having no evidence to that effect, except if it were desired to be quite straightforward in his defence?

And as Melrose unnecessarily told the truth upon the beginning, why should he be allowed to have his rights regarding the termination of his I.W.W. membership?

The evidence against Melrose was that he had been a prominent visitor to the I.W.W. rooms and had knuckled about with the secretary.

In the light of the Unlawful Association Act, how may that be considered evidence against Melrose?

It would be the same under the Act, and we say it is remarkable that the authorities should say I.W.W. rooms still exist, or that there is a secretary, neither statement being proved.

Strange how these cases seem to be honeycombed with precedents.

If the police had a case against the alleged trouble, doubtless they would have brought it in. But how came the court to act as evidence the allegation that an unconvicted man was secretary of the I.W.W.?

So far as the Barrier knows, Harry Melrose is a member of no organisation but the A.M.A.

He left here five months ago. Did he

What shall the working-class do to rid themselves of the curse of all despotism, racketeering, and also secure justice and freedom? We have nothing, absolutely nothing, but the I.W.W.

1st, the structure, 2nd, the purpose, 3rd, the chief results of the present order, 4th, the class as a class understanding the art of self-defence.

The present capitalist class of society is divided into two classes, the capitalist class and the working class. Each of these two classes has industrial interests as well as these industrial class interests conflict, and there is, therefore, as a part of, and because of, the class struggle, a class purpose of defence, a constant class conflict—a class struggle.

Of course, we all wish to live and be comfortable. To live and be comfortable we must consume useful things, but before they can be produced they must be produced. Now, in performing this industrial work, we use raw materials, mines, forests, mills, factories, tools, machinery, railways, etc., and these things are called the means of production. We make use of these in the production in applying our labor power.

Now one class, the capitalist class, owns the mines, the mills, the factories and fields, and buys labor power, while the other class, the working class, uses the means of production and sells labor power.

Surely, you can see there are two industrial classes. In addition, the capitalist class has control over the means of production. First, the capitalist class owns the means of production; that is, the capitalist class owns the mines, the mills, the factories and fields, and buys labor power, while the other class, the working class, uses the means of production and sells labor power.

Second, the capitalist, because they are more class-conscious, are naturally more loyal than the working class. In obedience to the "biological law of self-preservation," a class, such as the capitalist class, will defend themselves as a class; that is, the class loyal in proportion as they are aware of, and understand the interests of their class. The capitalists understand that they are a class with class interests; they are always going out to all workers who are gullible and ignorant enough to listen to these walling about "no classes," "all in the same boat," "harmony of interests," "interests perfectly identical," etc., and to class struggle, and to the tactics of industrial struggle, far more than the workers do.

Being more class conscious and therefore more class loyal, and consequently more class conscious, for self-defence, the capitalist class naturally study more patiently the ways and means for their own class defence, and because they do study more, they really know more about their means of class defence, and they are more self-defence and class-defence in industry, they themselves band together, but they divide and rule the film-banned, bamboozled working class, thus they, the profitless parasites, succeed in this, the policy of the means of production. The workers, having no part

draw a clearance to the Sydney branch of the I.W.W. or did he not? If he had been paying his dues to the Barrier branch, or has he not?

Under the circumstances, it would seem but reasonable that if he were a member he should let his dues run up till he was turned—for he did not know when he would be recalled, and the I.W.W. dues would scarce reach the secretary through the post office.

Unless Melrose drew a clearance (which would have been foolish, since he had no idea that he would be in one place any stated time), he must have been bad on the books, whether he intended to pay up or drift out.

We say without hesitation that under the circumstances it is beyond the realm of possibility that he could have been a financial member of the I.W.W. last February.

But it is not the business of the authorities to reason along these lines, objections though they be.

Yet there are toilers who consider all is well with the world.

—"Barrier Daily Truth."

FREE SONG BOOKS.

Every person, sending in the annual subscription of 4s to "Direct Action" will receive a copy of the New Song Book by return absolutely free. Sub-getters should tell prospective subscribers of this. Send your subscription to us, as we want to get 10,000 on the books.

The Manager, Box 98, Haymarket, N.S.W.

Workers, would you like a better shirt, better tucker, and more pay? If so, join the I.W.W., and learn how to get it.

THE CLASS WAR

Others' Views.

(To the Editor).

Sir,—I have long since been converted to the I.W.W. Through continual reading of "Direct Action" further study of the conditions propagated therein, I have evolved to read and discern the factors of progress and evolution. I now realize that the human race is entering into what will be known in the future as the "Economic Era." It is the smallest degree of economical wisdom, we immediately discard all pre-entire hopes of emancipation from leaders, morality, and such like abstractions.

It is seen distinctly that the foundation of capitalism is built up on surplus value, or the unpaid hours of the workman.

The I.W.W. fully realize this. The average intelligent unionist believes the goal of the future is reached in gaining nationalization of the means of production and exchange. The ignorant unionist is satisfied in gaining parity to unionists, and the privilege of enjoying a "fair day's work for a fair day's pay."

I now see that within the complex workings of evolution, there is always a stage of death or annihilation.

Now we notice how the functional organization of the human general, the nucleus of the future life maker. How it develops until it reaches a stage when it becomes a parasite on the mother's body, and is consequently thrown out.

We can liken the political machine to this organism. Before it comes a time when a member of Parliament becomes an obstruction, observe the change from capitalist representative to Labour, from Labour to Socialist (this is the I.W.W., the future functional organism, call the parasite stage of the political machine), and finally our objective, the Industrial Revolution. In the falling, the demise, the process melted out to the I.W.W., up to the present, and throughout the time to come, we simply observe the convulsions of the old and the new organisms—the change from death to life.

Looking into the future we instinctively realize that a time will be when the human race will have evolved to a state wherein the positions of privilege, the necessity of politics, and even written laws will reach what we would consider to be a minimum. This will result from evolution.

The trouble to-day, confronting man is our inconsistency, due to lack of knowledge. Therefore, change or progress is consequently slow. When a new machine was invented only a few years ago, the workers thought to destroy it, and throughout the time to come, we found that such was indeed the case, as supply and demand proved that the coming of the new machine was inevitable. Now we realize this, and we can't fear what new invention comes along since we realise our coming (see union power).

We can liken the advent of the I.W.W. among old union machines as a similar paradox.

As the growth of supply and demand increased so did it necessitate a development of functional machines, just as in the growth of structural oppression, the development of the functions of resistance took place.

On the face of these facts, let the day be soon when we will cease to fear and restrain from the I.W.W., the new unionism. T. HEALY, Rockhampton.

Sir,—I have long since been converted to the I.W.W. Through continual reading of "Direct Action" further study of the conditions propagated therein, I have evolved to read and discern the factors of progress and evolution. I now realize that the human race is entering into what will be known in the future as the "Economic Era." It is the smallest degree of economical wisdom, we immediately discard all pre-entire hopes of emancipation from leaders, morality, and such like abstractions.

It is seen distinctly that the foundation of capitalism is built up on surplus value, or the unpaid hours of the workman.

The I.W.W. fully realize this. The average intelligent unionist believes the goal of the future is reached in gaining nationalization of the means of production and exchange. The ignorant unionist is satisfied in gaining parity to unionists, and the privilege of enjoying a "fair day's work for a fair day's pay."

I now see that within the complex workings of evolution, there is always a stage of death or annihilation.

Now we notice how the functional organization of the human general, the nucleus of the future life maker. How it develops until it reaches a stage when it becomes a parasite on the mother's body, and is consequently thrown out.

We can liken the political machine to this organism. Before it comes a time when a member of Parliament becomes an obstruction, observe the change from capitalist representative to Labour, from Labour to Socialist (this is the I.W.W., the future functional organism, call the parasite stage of the political machine), and finally our objective, the Industrial Revolution. In the falling, the demise, the process melted out to the I.W.W., up to the present, and throughout the time to come, we simply observe the convulsions of the old and the new organisms—the change from death to life.

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The Fifth Conference.

The Fifth Trades Union Conference on behalf of the imprisoned I.W.W. men was held at 109 Sussex street, Sydney, on Saturday afternoon, 21st April.

The delegates present represented 20 labor organisations.

The secretary reported that no answer had yet been received from the Government to the demand made at the request of the previous Conference, for the immediate release of the I.W.W. men in goal.

Miners' Lodge delegates reported that a strong agitation was in progress in their dist. etc. and that Defence and Release Committees had been formed. Other delegates reported favourable consideration by their unions of the militant attitude adopted by the Conference.

The secretary was instructed to further communicate to these Trades Unions who had not yet been represented, pointing out the seriousness of the apathetic attitude to working class security obviously adopted by them. He was urged to recommend to the various Defence and Release Committees that they carry on a vigorous campaign and combine the efforts of propaganda through their papers.

Messrs Lowden and Nelson were appointed to represent the Conference at the May Day Demonstration in the Domain on May 6th.

The next Conference will be held on Saturday, August 2nd, unless circumstances arise which will make it necessary to call a special meeting before that date.

A. SINCLAIR, Sec. of Conference.

True, Just the Same.

A newspaper correspondent at Budapest, Austria, says that a mutilated soldier, with one leg, and half an arm left in a battlefield, while riding in a street car in that city struck a woman passenger across the face with his remaining fist, whereupon, we are told that other passengers raised an uproar and threatened to do him violence.

The soldier explained that he had been driven to the act by the woman, whom he heard remarking to her companion, "We are doing splendidly if it is not for that mother's eyes we shall be millionaires several times over" and he added, "I have not suffered mutilation save millionaires of heartless women."

He said that he "suffered mutilation" for, except to make millionaires of warlords and exploiters.

The woman was "heartless" all right, as heartless as the rest of the ruling robbers of earth, but she told that about-up soldier the truth, and she was right.

To make millionaires is what modern wars are for, and they are for nothing else, and the sooner the "mutilated" soldiers get into their brains the better.

Everybody's Joining It. Joining what? Joining It. The One Big Union.

Montague Miller Farewelled. The International.

Some Sterling Speeches.

On Friday evening, April 13th, a farewell social was tendered to Fellow Worker Monty Miller by his many friends and admirers in Perth, W.A. The function was held at Mrs. Keough's new banquet hall in Newcastle street, Perth. The hall was brilliantly lighted and splendidly decorated for the occasion. Mrs. Keough, who had charge of the entering arrangements, presided and arranged for everything in the way of foods and drinks, which were done full justice to by the guests present.

The large and enthusiastic attendance of workers and their wives and children showed in a manner more eloquent than words, the high esteem in which Monty Miller was held by them.

Mr. Bill Roach, president of the Trades Hall, Fremantle, who presided, extended a welcome to all present and said that they had met that evening for the purpose of saying farewell to their old and trusted comrade, Monty Miller, who was leaving for the Eastern States by the steamer "Ontario" on Saturday morning. He called on Mr. Jack Curtin, editor W.A. "Worker," to propose the toast of the Labour Movement.

Mr. Curtin, in the course of an eloquent speech, paid a high tribute to the sterling qualities possessed by the guest of the evening. He knew of no man in Australia who had done more for the Labour movement than Monty Miller. In his long and arduous life, and year after year throughout his long life, Monty Miller had fought the battle of Labour. He was still fighting it. He had never wavered, or faltered, or departed from the straight path. In the eyes of his old enemy Monty Miller was still as strong and as vigorous a fighter as he ever was.

Mr. J. Doherty, of the Timber Workers Union, supported the toast. He drew the comparison of the timber workers by the bootlers and capitalists when the workers rebelled. It was quite the proper thing to do, and the news was received with acclamation when the workers of Russia or Germany rebelled, but it was disloyal and seditious for the workers of England or Australia to do likewise, who were fighting against the same economic conditions as the workers of Germany and Russia. The Labour movement was the hope of the world's workers, and it was only by working class organisation that would enable the world's workers to make a world which would free themselves from the slavery of capitalism.

Mr. Tom Butler, of the A.W.W., challenged the power of Parliament to do anything for the people than the people were prepared to do for themselves. The Labour movement stood for a policy and a programme for the working class. It was not a policy and programme which he worked and strived for, not for the purpose of putting men as representatives into power and positions of affluence.

Fellow Worker Paul Chandler, secretary of the Fremantle branch, vigorously condemned political action on the part of workers. It was waste of time and effort. It had made the Labour movement what was today a movement misrepresented and betrayed by men who used it for the purposes of personal gain at the expense and by the suffering of the working class. If the workers of Australia had devoted the whole of their time and money to industrial organisation and effort they would be in a stronger position to-day. The Labour leaders in Parliament had introduced conditions for the boys; they had tried to do the same for the men of Australia, and he was glad that they had failed. He expected as the aftermath of the present war, the reds and blackens in Australia and England would be singing "Britannia rules the waves," "Britons shall never be slaves."

In proposing the toast of "Our Guests" the chairman, Mr. W. Roach, said that his first introduction to the principles of Democracy took place as the result of the teaching of Mr. Monty Miller. From him he understood the meaning of the class struggle in Perth, and whether it meant justice or not, the workers would have to be taught what it meant, and the class struggle and the way to end it.

On behalf of those present he had great pleasure in presenting Monty Miller with a small sum of money, not as a reward or payment, but as a slight token of esteem and appreciation. All the money in Australia would not be sufficient done on behalf of the workers, he had money in Australia would not cause him to desert the principles for which he stood for. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Don Cameron, of the Plumbers' Un-

ion, briefly supported the toast proposed by the chairman. He, like others, knew Monty Miller years ago, when he was fighting the cause of Labour against great odds, and with very little support. From Eureka in 1854 right on to the Conscription campaign in 1916, Miller had fought continuously in the great battle for working class liberty. He had been wounded by soldiers and gaoled and bludgeoned by the police. But the old warrior of Labour was unconquerable and invincible. He lived on, and would fight on. Miller stood against the class system, and against the economic slavery, which commands what the workers shall do.

On rising to respond to the toast, Fellow Worker Monty Miller received a great ovation. Speaking with much feeling, and with that eloquence which has charmed his hearers for over half a century, he thanked his speakers for all the kind things they had said of him, and for the tributes which they had paid to him for the work which he had done in the past. When he looked back at the past and looked at the future, he felt gratified that he had been, and was still, against political action. While he differed with many present on that aspect of working class tactics, they all agreed on the ideals of Labour. The ideals were free production for labor, and free distribution for all the sons and daughters of democracy. The Labour movement did not stand for leaders. He refused to be a leader; he was only a comrade, and a right shoulder to shoulder with other comrades for the emancipation of the working class. He was pleased to notice that that spirit was taking hold of the working class movement. He was pleased also to notice many modifications which were taking place in the organising of the Labour movement which were improvements which he had always advocated as the only way to do it. He had a good deal more to do in that regard, and before the workers could be reckoned as an effective fighting force. He hoped that the time was not far distant when the workers would realise and recognise that the policy of the I.L.W.U. was the only policy which could make them what they hoped to be and what was necessary for them to be.

There were stirring times ahead. He may not be present to see them, but he was the younger element to whom he must look to carry on the work which had been done in the past. He was 85 years of age next July, and felt as young and as active as ever he was. He was proud from his fellow workers in the Eastern States for him to come over and help in the work that was going on. Tomorrow he would be on his way to those who had called him.

That day he had called at the Fremantle Club for the purpose of saying good-bye to Miss Street. He was allowed an interview of 20 minutes, but it was not allowed to shake hands with his old worker. But he did so, in spite of the handshakes and the regulations. It was a handshake which he would never forget; it was something magnetic, which fired him with a determination that in the last years of his life and with the last ounce of his strength he would spend in the interests of his comrades.

There were men in the grip of the A.W.W. who were condemned to stand there for a while to make the workers conscious of what had been done to them, and were now wronged. He would tell them of his wrongs as he was personally concerned, would be great, or would be spared, would be alive, or would be long languishing in the captivity.

Concluding, Monty Miller thanked those present for the magnificent ovation they had given him, and trusted that in the near future he would be with them again.

During the evening a splendid and varied programme of musical items and recitations was gone through.

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May Day was gloriously celebrated at Leigh House, Sydney, on Tuesday evening, May 1st. The function was organised by the Russian Club, and it took the form of an "International Night."

The electric lights, which were shaded with scarlet burning, lent an alluring effect to the dance hall. The stage was decorated with working-class motifs, and the flag of the Russian revolution was displayed prominently in the centre.

The proceedings were opened by Fellow Worker G. Kuznetsov, who also delivered a speech in Russian. Several speakers followed, speaking in the different national tongues, with Comrade Reardon, of the A.S.P., and Fellow Worker Rankin of the I.W.W., delivered the songs in English.

Songs, recitations, dances and musical items of international repute were gone through to great amusement and appreciation of all assembled. The Red Flag and several "wobblly" songs were lustily sung by the audience.

Men, women and children from all parts of the world fraternized together, and demonstrated in all the fraternal spirit of the working-class movement.

The audience knew of only one war, and by speeches and songs, showed to all that the world was at one with only one enemy. May the International continue to grow, and the workers of the world realize the true significance of the Red Flag and May Day.

ROCKHAMPTON.

For the past three weeks, 400 members of the A. M. I. E. Union, engaged at Lakes Creek, have been life, on account of the dispute between the Waterside workers, and the Imperial Shipping Freight Committee, over the proper reading of their award. The award says that waterside workers, loading day as in day, should receive full hours between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., unless proper sleeping accommodation is provided. The shipping company contend that the Port Alma shed conditions proper sleeping accommodation, the workers think otherwise. Port Alma is about 40 miles from Rockhampton.

On account of the tide rising and covering the shore for nine miles, there is no habitation. The workers' quarters at Rockhampton, and remain on the wharf till the work is completed.

As a result of the deadlock, no Freezing Dock call at Port Alma. The workers are severely working all their boats, including meat boats, at all other ports, while the works at Lakes Creek, remain crammed to the doors with frozen meat, and these workers are on strike.

In sheerwoodment the meat workers who showed a degree of virility in the recent skirmish with the meat barons, view the weakness of the waterside workers. In the grip of the Arbitration, thousands combined with the unlawful Association Act, they are demoralised. Questions of investigations, brings to light the awful fact, that the Australian Federation of Workers is in name only, being instead sectional groups of dissatisfied workers. It now remains for the Meat Workers to take up the fight and by their intelligence to solidarily give proffer to their weaker and hapless fellow workers, illustrating thereby that in unity is strength, and false amalgamations of labor will always fail, and should not be tolerated.

T. HEALDY,

Meatworker

Opportunity.

"I would give the half of what I possess to have the opportunity of enlisting—Sir William Irvine."

Now, what a pity, Sir William! Such valor to run to waste! (Do you see that?) The patriot of old! Let's see if we cannot, Sir William, find you a way through the mist, To release you of half of your money, So that you're able to do as you please, Or the whole of your money, Sir William, To make it undoubtedly sure; I've noted your men are the fellows Who find a way to get their money, But joking apart, dear Sir William, Money or no, there's a way; Just to release you of half of your money, And explain your dilemma some day; It's on Collins-street corner, Sir William, Swanston-street corner, New bark 'e, And show you the way take pity, And don't you ever let us take pity, —In "Woman Voter." P.E.M.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
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STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.
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 owners of the earth. The class struggle will continue as long as the good things of life. Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as the class, take possession of the earth and the means of production, and abolish the wage system. We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another's strength. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class by mistaking the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

The conditions can be changed only by the interests of the working class should only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all. Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary motto, "Abolition of the wage system." It is the history of the working class that it has always worked with capital. The army of production must be organized not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism has been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

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