# INTERNATIONAL.

The Organ of the International Socialist League (S.A.)

Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

No. 42

FRIDAY 7 JULY 1916

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

## The Red Herring.

The horrible outrages on white people at Florida, for which Capitalist society is ultimably culpable, has resulted in the recrudescence of negrophobia. In order to side track public attention from the root of the evil the Capitalist press has got the Illicit Liquor scare going, and its parsons and pot-house statesmen are now hue and cry deluding the people on the wrong scent.

There is no illicit liquor problem in the Cape as far as we know. Why is it made necessary here? Here capitalist industry exploits cheap labour by the hundred thousand. And in order to make it amenable to discipline requires that cheap labour to be compounded, indentured, and dragooned under special legislation which deprives it of civil liberty, in fact under conditions amounting to slavery.

It is notorious what the result is of herding men together. The barrack life of the Tommy is enough comment. By the same token they have to close the bars in Durban against the same indentured, compounded and dragooned Tommy in order to preserve his discipline, and suppress the distempers of celibate imprisonment.

Now we have the farmers of Pilgrims Rest crying out for greater control of the 25000 natives in their district. The natives are getting "too insolent," and there are only two policemen in charge, and only one patrolling these natives. The secret of the trouble is in the tail,—they ask for Government control of these natives' education. The natives are so educating themselves that it only requires one policeman to patrole twenty five thousand! This will never do. He is getting cheeky, educating himself. We must have more police to make more (crime, and government education, to make more criminals. "We pay all these taxes," say the Pilgrims Rest farmers (the natives produce them) "and only two policemen for our money!"

The Capitalist class is essentially a criminal class. Being parasites on labour their morality makes them so. The impudence of this class, with its parsons talking of the white man's burden, holding up the native population, on whose honest sweat and blood their society is pillowed, as the very scum which they themselves are. The impudence of Capitalist Society, fomenting issues about illicit liquer, a boil of its own bad blood, about "insolence" and "outrages" of natives brutalized by the necessities of their own profiteering; the impudence of these people thinking by raising dust of this kind they can bide the fact that it is not order they want, not the education of the native they want, not the unfolding of the people in liberal culture socially and mentally they want, but the very opposite,—the perpetuation of disorder, of brutality and savagery under proper supervision so that in the fumes so raised capitalist thievery may prevail a little longer.

Regulated disorder is the condition for the perpetuation of capitalism. And for this every agency, whether it be the bioscope, Gardenseat education, Recruiting platforms, negrophobes, parsons at the left, must be used in order to inculcate the idea of brute force as he can't behind meethed to vindicate the right. Well knowing that while best i force is ideal there is no right to vindicate.

The more years we put builded us, the more capitalist issues security at the contract. Every year rushes us forward to the particular security because the only alternative for so-

Mr. Saul 'Msane appealed, at some Wesleyan Conference this week to the white people to save the natives from the liquor evil. Native speakers labour under tremendous difficulties in crises of this kind, and we cannot blame Mr. 'Msane for this little sop to white vanity. But we most emphatically affirm that there is no cure except by the natives themselves. The white workers were regarded as parasites until they organised and compelled their masters to change their tune. So will it be with the native.

The greatest, the only educating factor for the workingclass is the workingclass movement. Nobody can save the native except the native himself. And you cannot save white society except the native save himself.

The kaffir wage-earners will become civilized in the true sense of the word only in the degree that he combines industrially. The capitalist press howls sedition when we talk thus. Everything that threatens capitalism is sedition; even when it is the uplifting of the native and the securing of society from the dread results of its own capitalist greed. But sedition or no sedition, the industrial organisation of the native workers is the only thing that can let in a whiff of pure fresh air into the surfeited atmosphere of South African society.

## Right Without Might.

The Congress of the anti-war Socialists held in Switzerland during April was not well attended. The grip of the governments is strengthening on every Socialist in the belligerent countries. Ledebour and most of the other German leaders seems to have felt that his place was at home. The Congress contented itself with issuing a Manifesto calling on the workers of Europe to agitate for peace. and the drawing up of a "Declaration of Principles," which has not yet reached us. The International is the expression of the fullness of the might of the working class movement in the various countries. That is why the Italian Socialist Party is the prime mover in the new International Commission. In Italy neither the political nor the Trade Union movement have bowed the knee to the war god. ·But in the other countries the work of rallying back the workers to their own ideals has to be done, and it is felt that the fight for the International has to be fought at home, rather than in the Congress. A general staff is useless without an army. Just now each part of the International is greater than the iwhole. Necessary though it is and glorious for the trumpet of Right to be sounded against all the hosts of capitalism by the assembled Socialists of the warring nations, it can only be a prelude to the marshalling of the Might that can enforce the working class ideal.

That is why to trumpet Internationalism is only half our job. The best service we can do to the International is to build the working class movement here.

What gives might to the International Congress? The voice of Socialists in the assemblies of Europe. What gives power to that voice? The Industrially organised might of the working-class. Here then, tiresome though the iteration may be to some,—here, in the grimy change houses of industry is the only place to start contributing our share to the glory of our imperishable International.

## Another Socialist Congress.

Another meeting of anti-war Socialists took place last April at Kienthal, a small village in Switzerland. Representatives were present from all the belligerent countries except England. It was called, together by the new International Socialist Commission, organised under the wing of the Italian Socialist Party to carry on fraternal relations between Socialists and to draw together the warring workingclass of the various countries, during the continued inactivity of the Official International.

The Kienthal Congress had 40 delegates present. Representatives from Germany and France were present. Ledebour was not there, but Hoffman of the Prussian Landtag was, with the editor of an important Social Democratic paper, two women representatives, a Socialist from Bremen and another from Frankfort, all of whose names are withheld. Most of the belligerent governments tried to frustrate the attendance of delegates.

Owing to the heavy censorship news of the proceedings are meagre. From the reports quoted by the Cambridge Magazine and L'Avanti the congress appears to have been content with the issue of a Manifesto and a "Declaration of principles." A passage from the Manifesto reads:

Do not be deceived. The militarism of a nation can be destroyed by that nation alone, and in all lands it is necessary that it should be destroyed. Your governments and your press tell you that the war must. be continued so that it may be the last. That also to a deception. Never has war killed war. On the contrary. It rouses the desire of revenge; for force generates force. So your tortures will demand new sacrifices after each sacrifice... and out of this infernal ring the way of the bourgeois pacifists does not lead. There is only one way to prevent wars in the future; the conquest of political rights, and the overthrow of the capitalist monopoly by the working classes. Lasting beace will only be the fruit of victorious Socialism. Who are those who preach the policy of 'holding out' until 'victory'? They are the originators of the war, the mercenary press, the war contractors and those who derive profits from the war. They are the Socialist patriots, the blind followers of the bourgeois militarism; they are the reactionaries who in secret rejoice that those are falling on the fields of battle who yesterday threatened the position of the rulers.

So far there does not appear to emerge from the deliberations any scheme of concerted action. Such action is only free to those parties that have not committed themselves. And this is evidently the reason why the Italian Socialist Party is able to lead the way towards reuniting the International. There were five representatives from the Italian Socialist Party. And Seratti, the editor of Avanti, shems to have stood out for a declaration against all wars, defence or otherwise.

The three French delegates were met with abuse when they returned. Brizon, the Socialist deputy, was called to account by the Socialist of the French Socialist Party. Louis Dubreuihl, for breach of discipline in attending the conference, without the spection of his Party. Brizon's restrict in which recording:

... "If you mean to accuse me of indiscipline, I shall have no trouble in showing that it is you who are lacking in discipline. At Kienthal, I opposed those who wished to found a third International. I have remained faithful to the second, created—on the French side—by Jaures, Guesde and ... Louis Dubreuilh. But you have broken with it. Since the war you only know Poincare; you no longer recognise the second International, nor its bureau, nor its secretary. What did I do there? I only followed the decision which you signed at Stuttgart in 1908: If war should break out, it is the duty of the working classes to unite in bringing it to a speedy end... I am not, and a Socialist must not be, a purveyor of battle-fields. I have remained in the International. You have fallen into nationalism. Which is the guilty one?...I will appear before my judges without fear, because without reproach...

Robert Grimm, the Secretary of the International Socialist Commission, has appealed for funds to carry on the work. In his last letter to the League, quoted some time back, he hoped that we would support the Commission financially as well. The Management Committee of the League decided to appeal to the Branches as soon as other collections are out of the way, and subscription lists will be sent out during the week. This will give an opportunity to all ardent Internationalists to help with their mite those comrades who are so bravely and faithfully striving for the reuniting of the workingclass International.

#### Italian Trades Unions True.

An account in Avanti of the Conference of the Italian General Confederation of Labour is very much limited by the Censor. The conference announced itself in sympathy with the Zimmerwald Conference and rejected the resolutions of the London Labour Conference, & The latter is referred to as an example of "a partial conference of the social patriots of the Allies and the Central Empires. They are a manifestation of class collaboration."... "they are an example of the dedication of so-called leaders of the workers' movement to the interests of national capitalists." "The Italian proletariat wishes to remain without any stain, free from all contaminating contact, with power to-morrow to speak and pronounce its judgement against all those responsible for the present situation."

[The conference being a Constitutional Trade Union Congress, provides an important indication of popular opinion.]

The appeal of the modern Socialist is not so much to man in general, to man in the abstract, as to man as producer of wealth; in other words, to the workman. He, the Socialist, calls upon the workman, as the producer of wealth, to claim his right as a class, to be at once possessor, controller, and organiser of production and the enjoyer of the wealth produced.

E. BELFORT BAX.

The doctrine that all men are, in any sense, or have been, at any time, free and equal, is an utterly baseless fiction.

HUXLEY.

# Mr. Dooley on Capital and Lubour.

"It was different whin I was young man, Hinnissy. Capital was like a father to Labour, givin' it its boord an' logins. In thim golden days a wurrukin man was an honest artysan. That's what he was proud to be called. The week before illiction he had his pitcher in the funny papers. He had his arr'm ar'round capital—a rosy, binivolent ol' guy with a plug hat and eyeglasses. They was going to the polls together to vote for simple ol' capital.

"In return f'r fidelity he got a turkey ivry year. At Christmas time Capital gathered his happy fam'ly round him, an. in the prisince iv the ladies iv the neighbourhood, gave them an oration. 'Me brave lads,' says he, 'we've had a good year. (Cheers.) I have made a millyun profit. (Sensation.) Ye have done so well that we don't need so many. (Long and continyous cheerin.') Those who can do two mins wurruk will remain, an', if possible, do four. The other faithful sarvints,' he says. 'can come back in the Spring. An' the bold artysans tossed their paper caps in the air an' give three cheers f'r capital. They wurruked till ol' age crept on them, an' thin retired to live on the wishbones an' kind wurruds they had accumulated."

## He Saw it Coming.

Dean Farrar fiercely opposed the ideas of Tolstoy, because, he averred, anti-militarism led to Communism. And Communism was c rtainly sinful, because the present system, he added, was based on "eternal principles." Good old hocus pocus!

Whether individual non-resistance be right or wrong, Socialism is going to lift the fighting instincts to the plane of intellect

Dean Farrar was only an advance agent of grown-up capital. Governments today have a very sensitive nose for refusals to serve in the army. They now know that it is very much akin to Revolution.

For the only use for bayonets after this will be to suppress the workers. And without the bayonet capital has no weapon against education.

Militarism is the shield of Capital. But the lance and shield of Socialism is Industrial Unity.

D.N.S.

The modern mind sees that often times a formal liberty, such as that for example, comprised in so-called liberty of contract" as between the pensenger of the means of production and the projections workman, is a more form and contract which more—a form concealing a content which is its very opposite. E. Bellout Bax.

## In the Chance House.

The Federation seems wobbly on the recruiting business. A motion at the last General Council to rescind all motions involving the movement in the recruiting campaign was lost by a narrow majority. Several however who spoke in favor of the metion had to vote against according instructions.

It was however carried that the Federation' representatives on the Recruiting Committee do not take part in the Recruiting or appear on the Recruiting platforms as representatives of the Federation. Their business was to watch the interests of the workers.

#### July 4th.

July 4th with its bitter memories has come and gone. The Federation which seemed so revolutionary three years ago is today hand in glove with the capitalist conspiracy that mowed down the workers in Commissioner Street for profits, the same that is today mowing down the workers on the fields of Flanders, also in the interest of profits.

Whether the huge holocaust of European war will blot out July 4th from its prominent place in our memories remains to be seen. But today the vaster crime demands all our attention. The July victims were not conscious of a great cause and a great sacrifice, no more than their myriadiold multiplied brothers in Flauders. Let us not forget that they were victims, not only of capitalist rage, but also, as we have since learnt, of wrong conceptions of workingelass tactics; and in so passing reverently pay our tribute to them as vivid representatives of all the victims, numberless as the sands of the sea, of the present capitalist system.

The time is coming and now is, when the working class movement will require men, "educating to organise and organising to educate," as brave to restrain, as calm in counsel, as impatient of secret conspiracies, as they will be fearless and overflowing with Socialist fire even in the cannon's mouth when fit occasion will demand.

#### Devil take the hindmost.

Whenever the A.S.E. has a job to do it goes on its own, though it is in the Federation, leaving the Federation to battle for the remaint. Last week the remaint got left with the haby to hold, and the A.S.E. men in menticipal employ made off with the specifical employ made off with the specific Plant is not the fault of the A.S.E. It is the fault of craft organization.

It is the fault of craft organization of the fault of the faul

All the men in the municipality in a Municipal Employees Union, with departments for different tools certainly. All men on mines, no matter what tool they handle, in the Mine Workers Union, So united, no power can divide the workers.

#### Tramwaymen!

The Tramwaymen have elected cfficers for the ensuing year. The committee is a good class conscious one, who understand that what the Union cah't get by its own organised power, it cannot get by favour. But strange to say the members have elected as president Mr. Fred Hicks, presumably with the idea that he can get something from the Management because he is persona grata inside the office, as a result of his frequent visits there. The members have yet to learn that "who puts his trust in prince or peer (or Bum Presidents) must fall." The man who can get small favors for you has to render some big service for them. Look out!

The Maritzburg Typos walking out of the Advertiser office in support of their Durban comrades is a fine example of solidarity. In time let, us hope, not only will craftsman stand by craftsman, but every worker will so stand by worker, irrespective of craft or colour.

## A League Census.

#### School Board Results.

The result of the School Board Elections deserve notice, cramped though our space. Comrades Herbert Johnson and Sidney van Lingen polled each over 700 votes in the East Rand Area. But it is in the Central Area that the best test of the effect of our propaganda can be made, as the area is large, and the personal factor correspondingly smaller.

The highest and lowest polls of the successful candidates were 3,575 and 2,552 respectively. The League candidates polled.

Mrs. Barnet 621
S. P. Bunting 930
C. Clingman 464
D. Ivon Jones 752

It is fair to say that these votes were given for the League's Education Manifesto, which was distributed so sedulously in every quarter of the district.

Owing to the block system of voting it is difficult to compare with previous League Blections. Out of 36,000 papers issued, only 8,000 were returned, of which 975 were spoilt. A fine commentary this on the system of postal voting. This means a 22 per cont poll. Shoals of voting papers were returned to the dead letter office. The system commently favours the respectable Jings "Citizes" vote, who follow the Pins-Warse Citizes stowd. Many supporters of the Legges falled to get their papers. The

women had no vote. Likewise, being a parliamentary roll, the "Sunday Times" cannot console itself with the thought that our poll was an anti-German or alien vote. It was a good solid Socialist vote. It is said by those who attended the count that, whereas the Labour and Unionist votes were all mixed up on the papers, the number of papers containing votes for the four Socialist candidates only was remarked upon. This means the beginning of a well disciplined Socialist vote, and it is a mighty encouragement to us to go forward with our undiluted revolutionary propaganda. From now on our object must be not to inflate results for their own sake, but to concentrate attention on working class propaganda; to water the roots, and leave election results to look after themselves.

"Proletarian revolutions," said Marx.

"... criticize themselves constantly; constantly interrupt themselves in their own course, come back to what seems to have been accomplished in order to start over anew; scorn with cruel thoroughness the half-measures, weaknesses and meannesses of their first attempts, seem to throw down their adversary only in order to enable him to draw fresh strength from the earth, and again to rise up against them in more gigantic stature.".

The last "Sunday Times" wondered what the signatories of the "seditious pamphlet" would poll; and gave a hint to the police (always the police, police, with these hysterical people) that it was time they took us in hand.

Significant also of our entry into the field as the only true party of the working-class has been the manner in which the Capitalist Press has completely boycotted the Socialist ticket, and advertized the Labour ticket along with the Unionist. We seldom have need to go out of our way to attack the Labour Party. Its evil associations are its greatest condemnation.

## The Materialism of Socialists

You often hear the parson inveighing against the materialism of the Socialists. And strange to say you have Labourites telling us to come down from the clouds. Which is right I wonder. As I heard Andrews say once, the parson's job is to keep us staring at the sky rockets, what time the profiteers are picking our pockets.

And we have Socialists even who have not emancipated themselves from the false dualism of matter and spirit; Social Reformers who bewail the materialism of our hard, cold economic science; and talk of a Socialism based on ethics instead of on economics, on altruism instead of on self-interest, by evolution instead of by revolution; by the ways of the spirit instead of the ways of the material.

False dualisms these, reapons of the

ment makes its own ethics, as the bourgeois class has made its own morality to perpetuate its rule. And the ethics of the workingclass movement are to be found immanent in its economics, in the mighty laws of its own development. Ethics and economics are resolved into class consciousness.

Altruism is not a denial of self-interest. We admire a man, not for the degree of his altruism, but for the degree in which he finds his self-interest realized in a cause greater than himself. Altruism and egoism are resolved by the working-class movement into communism.

posites. Bernstein has reconsidered his kick against Revolutionary Socialism. Every new birth is a revolution. And every new birth is the finale of an evolution. The material for Revolution evolves in "the lap of present day society." Evolution and Revolution are wedded by the working-class movement in the Industrial Union.

In fact, my dear dreamy phrase-idolater, matter and spirit are one. Your fine æsthetic, ethic, prophetic dreaming, aspiring, I've had some, It has been going on for thousands of years. You who tell us to come down from the clouds, in order to talk about thos: goddesses of modern superstition, justice, liberty, equality,—which to the toiler who asks for bread gives slop instead,—your lightning will never flash without the brown common earth as conductor.

The priests of capitalism were quite willing for the workingclass to aspire, and yearn and dream, and idealise to their hearts' content. It is when the workers turns to the material wherewithal, to the hard conductor which economic science provides for the lightning of the spirit, to the forces now evolving for the first time in social development which are turning his dreams into tangible realities, it is then you hear the befuddlers hissing out the word Materialist. Yes! We are Materialists.

BERONIA.

#### BRANCH NOTES.

#### JOHANNESBURG

Sunday night open air meeting was as usual well attended by an attentive crowd, growing more appreciative, Comrades Ivon Jones and Dunbar spoke, Comrade Reid breaking the ice as chairman.

Indoors, in the Trades Hall, Comrade Campbell again spoke to a full audience on "Police traps" or capitalist snares. The speaker gave a very interesting account of the martyrdom of the so-called Chicago Anarchists, and their first attempts, constitutionally conceived, in the eighties to found the workingclass movement in America. Comrade Campbell showed what a 1 bel the term Anarchist was on these men, who were undoubtedly the victims of a deliberate capitalist conspiracy to wreck the

beginnings of the Socialist movement. At the conclusion of his address, the lecturer made a few very pregnant remarks on the great necessity for the Socialist movement to keep abreast of the spirit of the age, and not slip back into the secret organisations, and resorts to brute violence which signalized its early failures. He shewed how implicit reliance on the principle of Industrial Unity, building from the base upward, and scorning all successes gained other than by the education of the masses how this enabled the Socialist Labour movement to gather to itself all the best of the past and the present in society.

Good collection. Good sale of International, and other literature.

Next Thursday will resume the weekly lectures, Comrade James Black will speak. Comrade Bunting will speak on Sunday.

Last Thursday week the Branch concluded its discussion on workingclass policy in general and that of the official organ in particular, and members mutually congratulated one another on the high level reached, and the restraint and forbearance observed in tackling thorny questions. The Branch decided to recommend to Conference that the condition of membership of the League be the endorsement of the principle of the class struggle, and recognition of industrial unionism as the only effective means of carrying on that struggle.

#### BENONI.

All comrades in the League are reminded that a Social and Dance will be held by this Branch in the Hotel Cecil on Wednesday the 19th inst. Comrades from other parts of the Reef are given a hearty invitation to be present and make it a thumping success.

#### KRUGERSDORP.

Last Sunday Mrs. Barnet addressed the League meeting on the problem of Women in Industry. There was an increased attendance, especially of the women comrades, and a thoroughly edifying and enjoyable evening was experienced by speaker and audience alike. This is the "industrial unionist" branch of the League par excellence!

"The lecture was very instructive and made many of those present put on their thinking caps. All present were convinced of the necessity of Industrial Unionism and that women could not be left out of such a form of organisation."

#### DURBAN.

The usual branch meeting was held on Thursday evening. It was decided to distribute the League literature on Sunday evenings in the Town Hall Gardens and plenty of volunteers for the work were forthcoming.

It was further decided to commence our Sunday evening meetings at 8 o'clock sharp from Sunday 9th July, instead of 8.30 as heretofore.

This simple resolution contains more than is apparant to the casual eye. At the commencement of the Branch's activity in Durban we sought to work in harmony with the Social Democratic Party branch here. And our meeting was held late in order not to clash with the weekly open air meeting of the S.D.P.

This has worked quite satisfactorily until recently, but of late the S.D.P. have taken to prolonging their meeting until

nearly 9 o'clock and as a consequence our attendance has suffered.

In any case our propaganda does not coincide with that of the S.D.P. being at variance on what we consider our chief plank—that being so our meetings are, of course, quite distinct although not antagonistic, except in the fundamental reason of our existence.

Our dance on Saturday night held at St. Mary's Hall Greyville was most suc-

Credit must be given to the Ladies Committee for the excellent manner in which they catered for the enjoyment of the many comrades and friends present.

The typos are on strike here, they are out for an increase from £3. 18. 0 to £4. 4. 0 per week minimum. The majority of the printing firms in this town are prepared to "grant their request" but the "Advertiser" and several small printing firms still hang out. That looks like a split in the cabinet of master printers and we wait to see what we shall see. Needless to say there is no talk of taking over the Industry, so the masters still smile. However, the Typos are going to win out if they stick together and we all wish them all the luck they may deserve.

### Branch Directory.

Benoni.—T. Chapman, P.O. Box 379, Meetings, Smith's Studio, Lake Avenue; every Tuesday night.

Durban.—W.S. Mabbot, 353, Point Rd. Meetings at Acutt's Buildings every Thursday and lectures every Sunday night.

Eastern Districts.—Secretary, C.B. Ty-13 · Evans Street, Forest Hill.

Germiston.—E.H. Becker, 54, Queen. St. Meetings in Colin Wade's surgery.

Johannesburg.—Mrs. C. Barnet, P.O. Box 4179. Meetings Trades Hall. Every Thursday.

Western Districts.—Fordsburg, Vrededorp, etc. Secretary, Comrade E.V. Boyd, 49, Solomon St. Vrededorp.

Krugersdorp. — Secretary, P. Somerville, 5 Vlei Street. Meetings every first and third Wednesday and, every Sunday night in Thompson's Buildings.

Head Office.—D. Ivon Jones, Secretary, 6 Trades Hall, P.O. Box 4179.

Capetown.—Intending members see Comrade Wilfrid Harrison, P.O. Box 1176, or Socialist Hall, Capetown.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

# Socialist Sunday School.

Children between the ages of 8 and 16 will be welcomed at this school, which meets

Every Sunday Morning at 11 a.m.

at

Comrade Neppe's, c/o Fex & MacLaren Streets, (near the Stock Exchange.)

Readers of "The International" who would like their children to acquire the rudiments of the Socialist teaching and outlook are invited to make use of this opportunity. There are two classes, a senior and a junior, and it is expected that with the increase of numbers a further subdivision of classes will take place.

Have you subscribed to "The International." 5/- per annua, post free, Box 4179, Johnne.

Printed by The Transveel Printing Weeks, 54 Harrison Street, for the I.S.L. P. O. Box 4179, Johannesburg.