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THE INTERNATIONAL

THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

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"Three Months After Peace."

The evil of agreements for long periods between employer and employee has not been long in revealing itself to the organised trade unionists who come under the influence of the S.A.I.F. Posibly the signatories for the workers in September, 1916, thought that "three months after the declaration of peace' was not a very remote date. Now peace seems further away than it did to most people in the first weeks of the war. In any case the signing of clause 4 which is now under discussion was a piece of criminal folly, or worse, on the part of those responsible. It is bad enough when an agreement arbitrarily binds the workers not to move in their own interests for a definite period; but so ridiculously vague a term as "three months after the declaration of peace," if interpreted literally, may mean many vears.

It is the opinion of many competent observers that a state of war is likely to become the normal condition until society is reconstructed on new lines. Already signs are not wanting that the clear national cleavages which divided the two contending parties at the outbreak of hostilities are becoming oblitarated.

Is Russia friend, foe, or neutral? is a question not capable of being answered, for there are at least two Russias, as it is becoming increasingly clear there are two Austrias, two Germanys, etc., and in short the war shows signs of evolving into a class struggle on

many fronts.

Of course the S.A.I.F. statesmen repudiate the existence of class antagonisms and argue that if we all allow ourselves to be dragooned by the Chamber of Mines or other employers' organisations into putting our necks into the Federation noose, all will be well: the South African pocket Gompers will do the rest for us. A Labour M.L.A. dately eulogised the Federation as the only salvation for the workers. Has he studied the effects of federations in Britain and America? Always these organisations result in labour bosses— Gomperses, Appletons, Crawfords, who are convenient tools for the capitalists to handle. The history of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain is a history of betrayal of the members in particular and the workers in general. More direct control of their conditions of life is what is wanted by the workers, and this can only be accomplished by organisation and action at the point of production. The workshop, mine, factory, railway, etc.—that is where the worker is robbed and nowhere else; and there must be the foundation of his organisation and the fount of his power. Federation reflects craft organisation, and cannot function when organisation by industry and class takes the place of craft nerrowness and sectionalism, as it

must do to stand up to modern capitalist developments. The British workers in large masses have organised on the job, and act rapidly, and generally successfully, without reference to the capitalist tools in the general offices and federations. In Africa the same methods will be forced on the workers if any real power is to remain in their W.H.A. hands.

"Helping Russia"

A little while ago the "Cape Argus'' made some violent statements about the "Bolsheviks of Johanneshurg" having published a leaflet stating that the Allies were aiding Japan to invade Russia. Philip Snowden, M.P., makes this astounding statement in an English newspaper: "While British Ministers utter hypocritical platitudes about this being a war for democracy, they secretly encourage the most militarist and imperialist country in the world to attack, and endeavour to overthrow, the newly established democracy of Russia." After stating that the "British House of Commons refuse to answer questions on the matter," he states that Lord Robert Cecil, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in an interview with an American newspaper reporter, said he would welcome a Japanese invasion of Siberia. This has actually happened. The "Manchester Guardian" (not a Bolshevik organ) states that Japan has actually been dominating Vladivostok for many weeks. Her warships appeared there on January 12th, and the pretext was then that "Japanese citizens were in danger." Another pretext is that they wish to recover stores of warlike material unpaid for by Russia. A funny way of regaining them; an application to Petrograd would have done the whole thing, vet there is no news of this ever being sent. The public are led to believe that the Japs are aiding the Bolshevils against German aggression at the request of the Allies, but the position seems to be the reverse. So much so that our comrades the Bolsheviks of Johannesburg seem to be quite justified in their publication, which "The Argus," obviously without knowing the facts, unqualifiedly condemns.

Germany occupied Belgium to prevent the Allies using it for their purposes, so we are told by Chancellors. The Allies are now occupying Russia and Siberia to prevent the Germans using it for their purposes, so we are told by "our" statesmen. Except that? great Russia cannot claim the sympathy accorded to "little Belgium," it seems a case of "Everybody's doing it." They are not helping Russia, but helping themselves to Russia: and incidentally paying "sincerest flattery"; to the Hun.

The Russians, now that they have repudiated capitalist undertakings, are being attacked by Germany, Britain

and her Allies, Japan, etc., whilst the capitalist elements inside Russia invite German or Allied aid indifferently. The latest proof is the Allied landing in Archangel: clearly an act of brigandage on a people with whom the British-Government is in theory not at war.

Pingpong Notes.

W.H.A.'s exposure in our last issue of the Union and Federation "Shop. Stewards" travesty is further illuminated by this voluntary "concession" from the S.A.I.F. to the Chamber of Mines-

"In the event of the Chamber agreeing to recognise the stewards appointed by the Union and the Federation, the rules drawn up by the latter for the guidance of shop stewards might be made subject to the Chamber's approval."

So quickly is a good thing, or the name of it (like the words "Labour Party'') twisted to ignoble purposes in the hands of "Capital arm-in-arm with Labour."

Another touch in the correspondence must have struck every reader. The Chamber "offers to co-operate with the unions in any reasonable scheme for combating the steady increase in the cost of living." It is obvious what is meant, but Mr. Crawford is diplomatically backward in coming forward, leaving it to the Chamber to make the definite advance (remember the £10,000) already had from Government):--

"In order to avoid any further delay, the Chamber now makes the suggestion that the S.A.I.F. Co-operative Stores should be-largely extended in their scope, and that the Chamber and the unions should jointly provide the funds necessary for that purpose . . pound for pound."

No doubt this sort of correspondence is considered a model of finesse. Not "catch as catch can." Oh, dear no, nothing so rough. But who benefits?

CHARITY BEGINS ABROAD.

Scheidemann's constituents, says Reuter, have howled him down and declared for Liebknecht and Dittmann, the International Socialists now . in goal for taking part in the big strikes. What fine fellows these agitators are to be sure—except at home!

What sort of society is this that has, to the extent that ours has, inequality and injustice for its basis? Such a society is fit only to be kicked out through the windows — its banquet tables, its orgies, its debaucheries, its scoundrelisme, together with all those who are seated riding on the backs of others whom they keep down on all fours.—Victor Hugo.

Craft Unions Obselete.

One good that can be attributed to trade unionism based upon craft lines is that it has kept the fighting spirit of the working class alive and active. They have not taken it lying down. The history of the craft union movement is one long struggle to maintain the status of the members and preserve the standard of living in the respective centres of industry. Yet more of less the struggle has been a failure. The cost of living has gone up higher and higher, and the workers, whilst gaining apparent victories in the struggles with the employing class, in reality have failed to obtain any substantial gain. These failures are very evident when we compare the rise in the cost of living over any period with the increased wages.

The antagonism between employer and employee can never be eliminated under our present system of society. Conflict of interests must necessarily exist in a richy of economic inequality. The employing class, in competition for markets to dispose of their commodities, seek to obtain the cheapest labour combined with a certain efficiency. The workers, dependent upon the employing class for "jobs," strive to obtain the highest possible wage in return for the hire of their labour power. The conflicts arising from such inequality, that is between a possessing class in control of the tools and land necessary to produce the essentials of life, and a dispossessed class dépendent upon that class, can only be eliminated by putting into operation the principle of the co-operative commonwealth.

Whilst the antagonisms inherent in the system can never be eliminated, not withstanding the inane prating about "new phases of evolution" and new born abortions called "social conscience" and the pretended love of humanity animating the employing class, yet they can be modified, and advantages can be gained favourable to the workers, by copying the tactics of the

employing class.

The employing class is no longer the isolated individual employer of fifty years ago. The economic changes have forced the small employers to combine their interests, creating the big industries as limited liability companies, corporations and trusts. The employing class in these big industries, are shareholders, many of whom have no knowledge of the nature of the operations of the company in which they have invested. These industries are dividend creating machines, with highly paid officials as managers, in which the workers are looked upon as cogs in the machinery for grinding out profits for the investors. In the smaller industries such as the building trade, the same conditions do not quite prevail, yet the tendency has been within recent years to combine all sections of the trade under one management, making it more difficult for the petty sectional employer to exist and forcing hun to employ cheap labour either white or coloured.

This combination of capital has led to the formation of associations of employers and their officials to safeguard capitalistic interests and combat the demands of the workers. The best example of such combination in this country is the "Chamber of Mines," an executive of highly paid officials in the service of the controlling financiers of the gold mines.

These associations of employers are to be found in every industrial country. No industry is without such an association, formed for mutual aid, a powerful force to oppose any demands made by the workers.

To oppose such powerful class-conscious organisations, what earthis hope have craft unions? None whatever, not even when linked up into a federation. We have had a sample of the reaknes of such linking up in the receitmunicipal strike. No solidarity; craft union sectionalism rampant, without any thought or consideration for other workers in the same employment, because they used different tools and did not belong to the same union. These workers were never considered by the A.S.E. when sending in their demands for an increase of wages. To meet the modern combination of the capitalist class is the immediate need of the workers. The craft idea of organisation is out of joint with modern economic conditions. An organisation is required that will have some hope of countering any move made by the employing class in antagonism to the workers. We know by experience how the employers are solid when face to face in any dispute with the workers. Profits are their god, and all other petty interests are sunk when safeguarding their fetish.

The solidarity of the employing class can only be successfully met by the solidarity of the working class, skilled and unskilled. One big union is the only form of organisation powerful enough to oppose the united organisation of the capitalist class, a class conscious union of workers to oppose a class conscious association of employers.

The official Rip Van Winkles of craft unionism are repeating the shibboleths of a bygone generation of workers. Enveloped in a mental atmosphere generated in the early phases of the industrial process, many remain ignorant of the changed economic conditions prevailing to-day. Others consciously ignore them and lend themselves body and soul, for a consideration, to the employing class in their efforts to stay the evolutionary process--futile efforts to stay the onward march of the rank and file who instinctively are marching in response to the economic changes that are taking place in the industrial world. No agitator is required to point out the increasing cost of living. The antagonisms are growing more apparent to the workers as the system slowly but surely drifts towards its dissolution, in spite of all efforts to stay the inevitable downfall.

These efforts reveal the weakness of the possessing class, and are object lessons showing how the economic conditions are not controllable but control all sections of the community irrespective of their wishes.

The idea of industrial unionism, the "One big union," is permeating the minds of the workers in mines, factories and workshops. The idea has been forced upon them by the failure of craft unionism and by the new economic conditions. It is dawning upon them that the solidarity of labour has been a tinkling phrase in conjunction with craft unions, a phrase that can only be given material expression to in industrial organisation in "one big union."

A Warning to Engineers

Ever since the commencement of the war we have had dilution of labour, and consequently many have become proficient in the work they have been allotted to. A great number of amalgamations of engineering firms have taken place, and working agreements with others, all for the benefit of—the workers? No. Again, there has been laid down "scores of millions of pounds' worth of automatic machinery," so says Lloyd George, all for the benefit of—the workers? No. A. warning to engineers! Women have become profi-SO that they cient have received special praise from the Press, from chairmen at company meetings, and at exhibitions. Meanwhile the trade unions discuss whether they shall take then into the unions or not, or even work with them. Whilst vou are balking the opposition is doing. They recognise the industrial asset the country possesses in its woman labour, not so much for machine minding or skilfulness in repartition work, but for "their capacity to master and perform many operations, of a varied character. requiring manual skill, precision, and judgment." Now, you engineers, it is up to you to change your tactics and outlook, for whatever industrial changes take place in Great Britain will find their reflex in this country also. The capitalists have already told you that "No agreement with trade unions can mortgage the industrial future of the country or deprive the nation of sources of strength which it is known to possess." This source of strength they intend to put into operation as soon as possible. There is to be a factory built in the south of England, and another one in Scotland, to be staffed entirely with women. The "Birmingham Weekly Post" gives you engineers a piece of its mind for the trouble you have caused by strikes and otherwise. This is what it says: "Their work (the engineers") can be, and is being, done by those who came into the trade since the war commenced, and we can do without their grudging and half-hearted services and their pernicious example to their fellowworkers." And again: "We greatly wish that our Government, in dealing with these labour troubles, would show more evidence of the iron hand within the velvet glove." So you know what to expect from the powers that be. Whatever action they take now they will be able to multiply ten-fold when peace is declared. Finally, "the skilled men of the trade are no longer indispensable."

If this is not sufficient warning, I don't know what is. Fellow workers, you will have to get out of that old cut-and-dried routine you have been labouring under for years, change your outlook and organise the women alongside of vourselves, not in the craft unions, but into industrial unions. Apply the obvious analogy in this country, and then, with that force, you will be able to meet the capitalist upon an equal footing; in that form of organisation, you will see the power and strength the working class possess, and by your assistance and energies will be able to hasten the day that will emancipate the human race.

C.B.T

Hell Fire Doctrine.

"There's no doubt whatever,", said the shift boss to the machine-man—as the latter was taking a few moments' well earned rest, which he employed by watching his favourite hoy, "Snuffy," drilling the holes that provided him with his portion of skoff and his comfortable "plank" in the compound-"There's no doubt whatever," he repeated, "that there's a lot of unrest about, particularly amongst them chaps," indicating Snuffy with the stein of his pipe. "We shall have to keep 'em down; we mustn't let 'en have too much rope. Once get a native rising and it's all up with you and me—there's the missus and the kiddies; too," he mused. "Lord, I don't know what would happen once they got the upper hand. I don't, blowed if I do!"

Ah!" said the machine-man, "it's a puzzle, that's what it is. I reckon we shall all have to join this 'ere 'Chamber of Mines Light Infantry,' that's what I shall do. I'm going to be ready. Give me a run; that's what I say; and then if the devils rise, we'll

just shoot 'em down.''

"That's it," said the shift boss, genially, "you've got it. I'll pass the word along on my rounds. There's a meeting to-morrow afternoon, and we'd better all sign on. That's it, shoot 'em, be ready for 'em; we must look after ourselves. So long."

The shift boss moved on, and the machine man strolled over to where Snuffy was patiently working.

There were times when the machineman took Snuffy into his confidence and talked down to him in a very

friendly and easy fashion.

"That's right, Snuffy," he remarked, "I'm glad to see you keeping busy. Work is a good thing for you chaps," he added, "ain't it? It keeps you out of mischief. Snuffy," he said suddenly, "what's all this talk I hear about you boys not being satisfied and wanting to go on strike — wanting more money, less work, more skoff, and all the rest of it, just like white men, eh?"

Snuffy straightened himself and looked the machine-man in the face. He wasn't at all a bad sort of chap, was Snuffy, to look at ,despite his black skin, and there was the light of reason in his eyes as he spoke to the ma-

chine-man.

"Baas," he said, speaking slowly, "me always busy, me don't mind work, black man must live, same as white baas, but work in mines very hard, baas, even for us," as his eye took in the little gang of compatriots working with him. "Lots of sickness, too, many die, plenty die of accidents, when roof fallein, money very little, baas, and we're just nobody, baas. Native don't count nohow, 'only a native,' that's what white baas say. We read in papers every day, 'White baas hurt in mine, so many patives killed.' No names to natives, they've got no name, if they have, not matter, nobody care, we just don't count." Here Snuffy paused, fearful that he had said too much. The machine-man gave him an encouraging nod. "Go on, Snuffy, my boy," he said, "tell us some more."

Snuffy, thus encouraged, went on, still respectfully. White baas, all join together, say what they want, and get it. Black man mustn't join together, and some of us begin to wonder

why," he said. "Why mustn't natives have unions? White baas not afraid. is he?"

"Boys begin to say," said Snuffy. "that mines all stop if natives don't work. All white baases—mine captain, big chiefs at Corner House—all out of work if boys don't work; big houses stop, big white missuses no money, all shops shut, because mines stop—because boys stop." Here Snuffy stopped out of breath and fearful indeed that he had let his tongue run away with him.

The machine man said nothing at all beyond telling Snuffy to get on with his work, and walked back to his bax. "Seems to me," he mused, "that boy ain't far wrong. I don't know what would happen if they all did stop. Almost seems as if we're dependent on 'em. Still it wouldn't do to let 'em know it. Snuffy's a good boy, but I'm a!raid he'll-soon be leaving, and I ain't so sure." he added under his breath, "that some folks wouldn't like to see something of a native rising: it would give them a fine chance of shooting en down, to get rid of a few thousands of 'em: But I ain't so sure either, 'he mused again, "whether it wouldn't be as well to try treating 'em properly first, just to see what difference it makes. Something's got to be cone anyhow. Now then, Snuffy, get on there! Quick, now, if you don't want a doafer's ticket!"

The Fifty-seven Articles.

The latest creation of "Labour Leaders' in South Africa is the Democratic Labour Party, domiciled in Cape Town. This party deserves credit for the amount of work put into the compilation of its platform, which contains no fewer than 57 different items, thus beating the S.A.L.P. hands down in the profusion of its promises. Here you will find all the reforms you can think of, and if any has been missed, a postcard to the secretary will no doubt remedy matters. An item that they did not take over from the S.A.L.P. when their split occurred is "The prevention of use of the Citizen Forces in industrial disputes." As an offset, their "charter" demands sufficient food, clothes, houses, health, education, etc., for all. (I have often thought that all this was what the workers required, but have not found it on the platform of any other Labour Party. Perhaps the others thought it unnecessary to state it.) The Party also wants South Africa to be an integral part of the British Commonwealth, with a voice in imperial and foreign relations. (When some parts of the Empire have had as much imperialism as they can stand, this loyalty on the part of the D.L.P. is touching.) Then follows an exhaustive list of the usual reforms such as financial reform, labour exchanges, arbitration and conciliation boards, etc. The platform, with all its 57 "demands," leaves unchanged the fundamental principle of capitalist society, the commodity status of labour.

The present-day system of exploitation is based upon the conception of labour being a marketable commodity subject to the operations of the laws of supply and demand in an open market and ceaselessly sinking down to subsistence level. The status of the

worker is little better than that of a chattel slave. His labour power, which should be regarded as something sacred, is treated as a commodity and subsidiary to profit. He is regarded as merely a factor in the process of production, just like a machine or a tool. He has no say as to where, how and when he shall work and has no control over the products of his labour. He is entirely in the hands of an idle parasitic class who by reason of their monopoly of the wealth-producing forces of the country ruthlessly exploit him to their uttermost ability. If the entire 57 clauses of the D.L.P. platform were made the laws of the land they would not abolish this degrading conception of labour. The worker would be a little better off as regards his immediate needs, but the chains of wage-slavery would be made more secure in that under State control he would have to forego the right to strike, which is his only effective weapon arainst exploitation and tyranny whether on the part of a capitalist nominee or of a bureaucrat. The effective use of the industrial weapon however calls for a militant and class-conscious working class-workers who will realise that there is nothing in common between the massters and themselves, and who will organise to attack the capitalist system and gain control of the industry. When they are masters of their jobs, when they alone appoint their own managers, foremen, etc., when they themselves frame the rules which shall govern them, then they are truly free. Simply to gild the worker's chains and make his condition a litle more tolerable would but serve the master class in making him more servile and contented. There is no room for free men within the wage system. The boss must be put into overalls.

Cape Notes.

Meetings in District Six, our slum locality, are carried on weekly, sometimes in a hall, and also outside, by the new wing of the movement here, while Adderley Street is still the scene of activity for the old school. Labour men, who exist in great variety down here, have of late endeavoured to justify their position as a political reformist school, in the form of debates with our comrades at our Adderley Street stand. Mr. C. Pearce, M.P.C., took the first dose, he being a member of the Labour Party. Then Mr. A. F. Batty, of the 'New Democratic Labour Party," met our comrade McManus, and the following Tuesday Mr. Brown (not Forrester) opened a discussion on "Why the socialists ought to join the New Democratic Labour Party." While we may differ among ourselves on "definitions," we are not divided in our reply to such absurd suggestions.

W.H.H.

The right to re-shape itself is the one birthright of humanity, and the vestell interests of priest or of class, the sanctity of tradition and of law, will be of less avail in checking human progress than the gossamer in the path of the king of the forest.

International Socialism is firmly established in South Africa. — "The Barkly East Fleporter," July 26, 1918.

"Irrespective of Colour"

The "International's" Record.

For the benefit of newer readers of this paper, a review of its attitude on "labour solidarity irrespective of colour" since its first issue in September, 1915, may be useful. Although the split with the S.A.L.P. on the war dominated the minds of the founders of the League, yet from the first the League welcomed the resulting liberty to deal untrammelled by programmes with the problem of the native working class or proletariat on international and socialist principles.

"Not till we free the native can we hope to free the white."—(October 1,

1915.)

"Slaves to a higher oligarchy, the white workers of S.A. themselves in turn batten on a lower slave class."—
(December 3, 1915.)

On January 9, 1916, the first I.S.L. Conference affirmed "that the emancipation of the working class requires the abolition of all forms of native indenture, compound and passport systems, and the lifting of the native worker to the political and industrial status of the white," etc.—(January 14, 1916).

"Unless the white workers take the big view, they will have to manoeuvre for a position like that of the privileged trade unions which in the 'Iron Heel' helped to break up the Labour movement: a position only "a little lower than the angels" of the capitalist class."—(February 16, 1916.)

arm of capitalist industry is doubly efficient (said Geo. Mason) for Labour organisation. The Federation should have helped the three native strike leaders on the Van Ryn and fought their case. What was needed was to get the native workers to train and organise themselves so that they could compel respect."—(April 7, 1916.)

"A labour movement that does not make a policy to organise and educate the unskilled is by that fact a movement of only part of labour and is sure to sacrifice the rest."—(August 25,

1916.)

"The workers will be sold and sold again until they all go, carpenter, miner, fitter, reduction man, handy man, yes even hammer boy, as one working class body, not with cap in hand, but in firm industrial unity, and present their demands to the Chamber of Mines as one United Mine Workers' Union."—(September 15, 1916.)

"The whole of the fight against capitalism is a fight with the prejudices and capitalist-engendered aversions of the workers. Conquer these and capitalism is conquered."—(September 22,

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1916.) "The employing class, which exploits all labour without prejudice of colour whether it be white, black or yellow, so long as it is cheap, strive nevertheless to perpetuate that colour-prejudice in the ranks of the workers themselves. But, robbed of everything else, to emancipate the world becomes the heritage of those who have nothing to lose but their chains. It is for the white workers to stretch out the hand of industrial unity to the native workers, and enlist the enormous economic power they can wield from the side of the capitalist to the side of the working class and true civilisation."

—(Johannesburg Municipal Election Manifesto, October 6, 1916.)

"Marx expressed it prophetically: Labour cannot emancipate itself in the white while in the black it is branded."—(October 13, 1916.)

"It is not a question of teaching the nigger socialism: only help him to appreciate the simple implications of his own actual economic position, and the time will come when, instead of the white unions opening their doors to their black fellow workers, they will be asking the blacks to open their doors to

whites.'--(February 9, 1917.)

"This is not a question of loving your black brother, nor yet of loving your white brethren, but a simple question of economics. The coloured workers need the help of the white workers, and these in return must unite with the coloured workers to combat the insidious demand of the capitalist class for cheap labour."—(February 23, 1917.)

"You have more in common with those who work for wages, even though they be nigger boys, than with the employers. We must organise the native workers."—(Labour Day Leaflet, April 6, 1917.)

"Industrial unionism means solidarity of white miner with black hammer boy; white mechanic and black drill sharpener, white blacksmith and black striker, all in the one big Mine Workers' Union."—(May 11, 1917).

"It is the imperative duty of the white workers to recognise their identity of interest with the native workers as against their common masters. We must either lift the native up to the white standard or sink down to his. The native must be given the right to combine, the right to withhold his labour just as we have that right. . . It is time for the white workers to deal with the native as a man and a fellow worker and not as a chattel slave and a sert. Only that way lies freedom and justice for all."—(Benoni Election Manifesto, June 29, 1917.)

"Instead of labour fighting labour, fraternise against the common enemy, and fight the exploiter not the exploit-

ed.''—(July 20, 1917.)

"Chaps that make black slaves of niggers Want to make white slaves of you."—("Slavery ain't o' nary colour," by J. Russell Lowell, August 17, 1917)

"He could recognise no colour line. The Red Flag stood for all humanity."—(Tom Mann, quoted with approval in 1910 by A. Crawford.)— (May 10, 1918.)

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH.

SPECIAL MEETING. — A special general meeting is called for Wednesday next, the 14th inst., for the purpose of discussing matters connected with the forthcoming League Canference. Members are requested to be at the Palmerston Hall at 8 p.m.

CERMISTON NOTES.

PUBLIC MEETING.—Comrade W. H. Andrews is billed to address a meeting at the Old Apollo Hall, on Tuesday next, August 13. His subject is "The Industrial Situation in Britain." Councillor C. Wade will occupy the chair.

League Notes.

STOCKHOLM.—Comrades and supporters of the Stockholm Fund are requested to roll up at the Palmerston Hall promptly at ten o'clock on Sunday morning, the 11th inst. Tardiness on the part of delegates particularly is certain to cause delay and the business of the conference is of such importance and interest, including report of and an address by Comrade Andrews, that an adjournment must be avoided if possible. Remember, Sunday, the 11th inst., at 10 a.m.

STOCKHOLM.—Representation for organised bodies at the Conference of Subscribers to the Stockholm Fund will be two delegates for every 25 members or part thereof. The representation of individuals who may attend will be decided by the Conference.

SOCIAL AND DANCE.—On the following Saturday, August 17, a Social and Dance is to be held in West's Academy, 125, Pritchard Street, commencing at 8 p.m. This event is being arranged in connection with the Special Conference of the I.S.L., and the Entertainment Committee is using every endeavour to eclipse the success of the last social gathering. Tickets are 2/6 for men and 1/- for women.

LEAGUE CONFERENCE.—Branch Secretaries are reminded that items intended to be placed on the agenda for the Special League Conference to be held in the Palmerston Hail, 39, Commissioner Street, on Sunday, August 18, should be sent to the Acting Secretary as soon as possible. The Committee is delaying to draw up the agenda until the last possible moment owing to the short notice to outside branches.

AMALGAMATION.—The amalgamation of the Central, Eastern and Western Branches, Johannesburg, has been decided; but for the purpose of granting representation at the forth-coming conferences the resolution will not take effect till after August 18, subject to the approval of the Special Conference to be held on that date.

CENTRAL BRANCH.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The Sunday School connected with the above branch meets every Sunday morning at Neppe's Buildings, Fox Street; eleven o'clock is the opening hour.

J. Campbell has consented to occupy the platform at the Palmerston Hall on Sunday night, at 8 p.m. Following the meeting of the delegates to the Stockholm Fund Conference the subject of the lecture "Industrial and Political Action" is of interest. Comrade T. R. M. White will occupy the chair.

SPECIAL MEETING.—Comrade J. Vituli is calling a meeting of the Central Branch for Thursday next, August 15, in the Palmerston Hall, at eight o'clock. Election of delegates for the League Conference is the most important matter on the agenda along with discussion of items it is intended to suggest for the Conference.

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