vistered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

# THE INTERNATIONAL

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

P.O. BOX 4179.

Neppe's Buildings, 54, Fox Street, Johannesburg.

Phone 6035.

No. 174



FRIDAY, MAR. 7, 1919.

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

# The Terror in Africa.

Il à Russian lady of fashion is called on to peel potatoes under the Bol-Jevik regime, she shrieks "Red Terin: " and calls on the Allies to intervene. In South Africa the Terror is a thing. If force and fraud conditute the whole foundation of capithroughout the world to-day, they are relied upon here in a pecaliarly naked and unashamed way. Recent events in Bloemfontein conto me with sickening fidelity. There the native workers ask for a rise. They are spurped by the masters of with an offer of just half the total wage asked for-being one-tenth of a white artisan's wage. The natives, though they had hinted at a labour shoriage, do nothing in the nature of a strike, but hold a meeting in their location at which dissatisfaction is expressed, and they are quite correctly warned that they may even have to die in the cause. Enough! Armed police attack the location and shoot. That is the brutal essence of the savage labour. conditions of this country. All native labour at least is performed, in that hat resort which the authorities are ever ready to invoke, at the point of ne bavonet.

The "Free State," the home of the independence "party whose delicate beliegates are to beg release from slavery," is a fitting venue for this display of the white bosses ultration was applied in Johannesburg in the abortive strike of July last, when not a single act of violence was proved against the workers as such, but Botha called out overwhelming Defence Forces to drive them dawn the shafts.

For white men as such striking is otten a positively respectable pastime. As long as they will hold themselves aloof from the cause of their native 'ellow workers, hostile to them and suborned only to "boss them up" and keep them docile, they may fool around like schoolboys with scab enges, hold defiance meetings in swell theatres, or "sabotage industry" to their hearts' contênt. But the black proletarians' portion is to slave for the white boss alway; to grovel for a beow subsistence wage; to die by the thousand in slum, location and kraal; to have no wants, no ambitions, and no self respect. Let him but dare o lift his head from his muck rake, and the sword of the whites is ready and keen to slice it off. "Yea, they hind heavy burdens and grievous to be norne, and lay them on black men's houlders, but they themselves will not move them with their finger'which on the contrary is glued to the ingger.

The war for liberty is won; the world is now safe for democracy; the workers of all lands are supposedly entitled to better conditions. But let

mo native toiler of India or Africa lisp wistful envy of such good fortune, let him not presume to participate in even one-tenth of it. The very crumbs of the banquet are not for him. His but to do or die, for not even unemployment but death is his punishment.

His all but mute complaint is signal enough for all the Black (or blue) Hundreds to get busy with their frame-ups, their false evidence as at the trial of Christ, their put-up stone-throwing and window-breaking, and all their devil's bag of sneaking tricks; signal for all the scribes to scare or rather incite to arms the all too willing white "citizens" with lies of "riotous assembly" and "running amok" and then the **Pogrom.** That is the police procedure; that is the Native Affairs programme; that is the Government policy—the "White Man's Burden."

Faugh! A curse on the whole black labour exploitation of Africa, ave and of the British Empire and the rest of the world besides! A blight on the tyrant class that battens on the sweat and degradation of the "inferior" proletariat and by force of arms denies them the right even to beg for "better conditions," for at any cost we must keep their labour cheap and servile! Woe unto you, hypocrites, skulking behind the subterfuge that "the law" denies a black man the right to break his contract of service! Whose law! Savages indeed! Who are they, the cowed, oppressed Abantu "boys," or their prancing, bullying bosses? Bolshevik terrorism, we hear of. Whose handiwork has been the century of wrong, the tyranny of a usurping minority, the firing on efenceless crowds, the massacre of Mome Gorge, the atrocities, the bloodbaths? Who dares to talk of "reconstruction' while you still ride on the people's backs, of "conciliation" while you belabour them with your sjamboks, of "abolishing militarism" while you shed their blood as an everyday matter of course and call it law and order?

Ye serpents! Ye generation of vipers! How can ye escape the judgment of hell? Beware, all ye who take up the sword against the masses. Upon you may come all the righteous blood of workers shed in this land. "Verily I say unto you, all these things shall come upon this generation"; for forty hundred thousand toilers of Africa to day are demanding, if half inarticulately as yet, the reason why this slavery shall be longer tolerated.

Bitter will be the struggle and great the tribulation, for every inch will be convested, before freedom is won. But we intend to see it won in our lifetime. And then, when all men are freed from the armed bloodsuckers, when each shall work for the common weal and share alike therein, when the honour and the power, the education and the comfort, shall be to him that toils not to him that exploits, when

none shall be called master and none servant—then, and not till then, shall "unrest" and "disturbances," provocateurs and pogroms, and all the abomination of desolation, be for ever at an end, and real peace and real liberty reign throughout the land.

#### The Ice Broken.

Last Sunday, at a meeting of white trade unionists called by the S.A. Industrial Federation at the Palladium Theatré, Johannesburg, to support the "Shorter Hours movement," the current of solidarity set up by the world atmosphere of working class emancipation traversed for the first time a complete circuit. From the body of the hall W. H. Andrews proposed and T. Matthews seconded: "That this mass meeting of workers protests in the strongest possible manner against the attempt being made by the O.F.S. authorities to intimidate the native workers from seeking to better their conditions of life, by arresting and imprisoning their delegates or representatives." The motion was carried. there being only two dissentients.

For the first time in industrial history white workers have thus publicly and corporately associated themselves with the grievances of native workers. Insignificant as a mere resolution of a single gathering may seem, it is nevertheless a historic landmark in the progress of the movement not only of this country but of the world. Nor has the resolution led, as we are often warned, to a mania for black men "marrying your sister." or white men "inviting Jim Sixpence to tea." As workers all they simply see the hypocrisy of describing the Bloemfontein proceedings as "Natives attacking the police"; they simply feel the Iron Heel of the master and servant system: they recognise the same hand that imprisoned Debs and Mooney, shot Liebknecht and Luxemburg, and left unforgettable bullet holes in the wall of Johannesburg's Town Hall. Above all, each section realises the need of the other's support: that divided we fall. but unsted we win.

Now then, this strategic vantage gained must be followed up hot-foot. Who can answer the complaint of the coloured workers whom the white strikers pull out—and spit upon? What else can they do but fly to the civic representative of the bourgeoisie: which is only too pleased to foster the real labour division in the country! But that Palladium resolution slashes away at one blow the vicious barrier between skilled and unskilled. The whole relationship of black and white workers must forthwith be radically revised. Let us gird up our loins for the inspiring task.

There is a reality and a grimness about the struggle of the working helots such as no "citizen", workers' movement can share. White workers may still shrink from active co-operation with native strikers. Very well: but they can show their appreciation of the One Class struggele by financial aid. 'A native editor has been committed for trial with a bail of £500. (Note that this security is being contributed by property owners, though it was property that, so we read, was being damaged.) Apart from that, he should be properlyedefended. Above all, the deterrent of starvation is less, in place in the case of a helots' strike than any other. Whether in Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, or elsewhere, strike pay should be available to the worst paid? workers first of all; it is only their due from the better paid sections. Let us prove, and improve, the Solidarity of Labour, the hope of the world, by making contributions to those who after all need them most.

Pending the formation of a proper body to manage any such funds, contributions may be sent, under the heading of Native Labour Defence, to the Treasurer of the I.S.L., Box 4179, Tohannesburg who will see to it that they are properly applied to the objects named. The amount got in may at first be small: but the moral effect even of such an insignificant supplementing of mustard with beef will be of epoch making value in the Labour

Movement of South Africa.

# White and Black abour.

The meeting of coloured workers in the Filkington Hall on Wednerday, although it indulgeds in some wild talk about "white marasiles," sete, drew. affention to the absolutely untenable position taken up by a large section of. organised labour in the Trainsviin. This attitude is unfortunately pandered to. by some of the leading trade union and Pederation officials. To refuse a man union membership and at the same time when a strike is on to require him to support the union is illogical, not to say grossly unjust. Either the workers must organise as a class irrespective of colour and creed or the capitalist class will use one section against the other. There are other glaring anomalies talked about in which the colour auestion does not arise, e.g., men are alleged to have been excluded from certain building trade unions because they were of German or Austrian origin. Cases are quoted where notwithstanding the fact that a man has become naturalised and been victimised by the bosses, he was refused admission. When the strike came the persons referred to were required to cease work, but no strike pay was forthcoming. To exclude a man from his union, to demand that he cease work, and then to refuse to assist him seems the limit of fatuity and injustice. One hopes that for the honour of organised labour these anomalies, whether the man be black or white, will immediately be removed.

Reform means a change of externals. Revolution—peaceful or bloody, the peacefulness or the bloodiness of it cuts no flaure whatever in the essence of the question—means a change from within.—De Leon.

### Shadows.

That Socialism is the heir of a historical process is a truth denied to those shallow-pated surface skinmers who are chasing the will-o'-the-wisps of emotion, such as the brotherhood of man, equality based upon natural laws, the inalienable rights of man—all shadows that have never been the basis of any past phase of society, do not operate in the present, and we have no reason to believe will serve as the basis of any future human society.

Evolutionary processes, as in nature, so in human society controlled by the development of the tools, the means of producing the necessaries of life for the community, do not take any cognisance of the ethic of the problem. There can be no argument as to whether it is right or wrong, good or bad, just or unjust; the only question is, is it

true or false?

The emotional shadow chasers are shrouded in the ideology of the 18th century philosophers. These spokesmen of the rising capitalist class present and help to make it a success. preached a philosophy that has persisted until to-day; with distortions by the apologists of the modern capitalist system, it has served to create the des lusion of mutual interests between cavital and labour. Brother capital has slobbered over Brother labour during the late war; but whilst he slobbered with one arm around Brother labour's neck he had the other in his brother's The members are requested to meet Docket.

The past hangs like a shadow upon the present" is a truisan that can easily be verified by the scheme, of many well meaning but shallow individuals curried away by the emotion for the welfare of manife. They ignore the driving force which commists somethy as a whole classic a defined man. Their schemes without being of any benefit to society, harmin and mischievous and play into the hands of the artful schemers who with a loud voice ery their nostrums from the housetops, yet in reality are ever looking to the main chance of making good as individuals at the expense of those they are leading.

Socialism, or the co-operative commonwealth, is the next step in the evolutionary process. Having as its basis the common ownership of the tools of production, it will give an equality of which we are deprived to-day, an equality based not upon the inalienable rights of man, justice, fraternity or other more or less fantastic ideas, but upon the equity of common owner-

ship.

recognition of the evolutionary process and the forces controlling same clear the mental vision of the shadow of emotion. We are thus enabled to understand the past struggle of classes for control of political power. We can see that such control was not theirs by right, but a necessary condition of the development of the economic forces in their possession. These struggles have been inevitable in the past and are inevitable to-day. The struggle is upon us. The social conditions are ripe, ready to be plucked by the working class. They are awaiting the awakening conscience of the workers that will force the need of organisation on the industrial field, and give its reflex on the political field.

# Branch Notes.

BENON! BRANCH.

Meets at No. 14, Lake Avenue, on Thursday, 13th inst., at 8 p.m.

The Social and Dance held is the Hotel Cecil last Wednesday was a great success. The hall was comfortably filled, the music good, and dancing way kept up till one a.m.

The artists were the Misses D. Eck. hout, Sager, van Poppel, Sanna Bassen and Mr. Strachan. Comrade J. den ! Bakker presided and the M.C.'s were Mrs. Aron and J. Nagley.

DURBAN.

A good meeting was held on Friday night, February 28, at the corner of Grey and Victoria Streets. Comradea Israelstam, Sigamony and Harrison were the speakers, and explained that the object of these meetings was to I organise and unite the world's workers to abolish the wage system. Meetings I will be held on the same corner every Friday night, and members of the I.S.L. in Durban are requested to be

CERMISTON.

Tuesday, March 11, at 7.30.—Ordi. nary Branch Meeting at Com. Wade's Surgery.

Friday, March 14, at 7.45 p.m.— Public meeting at Old Apollo Hall. Colin Wade on "Who won the war?"

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH.

at the Palmerston Hall on Sunday, 9th mst., at ill a.m. Business very inportani.

JUHANNESBURG BRANCH.

Open air meetings, all at 7.30 p.m. Saturday, March 8.—('.o. Marshail and Maddison Sts., Joppes: H. Barendrout, R. Rodger, S. Ward.

Saturday, March 8.—Market Square Fordsburg: W. J. Y. Gibson, W. Reid. T. R. M. White.

Sunday, March 9.—Town Hall (West End): E. H. Becker, S. P. Bunting, E.

J. Stewart. Saturday, March 15.—('.o. Marshail

and Maddison Sts., Jeppes: W. J. ('. Gibson, S. Ginsberg, I. Kessler. Saturday, March 15.—Market Sq.,

Fordsburg: C. Dones, L.-A. Shoul. Sunday, March 16. — Town Hall

(West End): W. Reid, T. P. Tinker, C. B. Tyler.

Cinderella Dance, Wednesday, 12th March, at -West's Academy, 8 p.m. Tickets: 2s. 6d.; ladies 1s. (at door). Refreshments provided.

Study Class.—Comrade R. Rodger will deliver his postponed lecture on The Philosophy of Socialism from a Scientific Standpoint," on Friday, March 14th, at 8 p.m. in Palmerston Hall, Commissioner Street.

Socialist Sunday School, every Sunday at 11 a.m., at Neppe's Bldgs., 54, Fox Street.

KRUCERSDORP BRANCH.

An open air meeting has been arranged for Saturday, 15th inst., at which Com. W. H. Andrews will speak.

A meeting in Thompson's Buildings will be held on Sunday, 18th inst. Both meetings at 7.30 p.m.

PRETORIA BRANCH. Open-air meeting, Church Sq., 8. p.m., Sunday 9th. Speaker: Com. T. P. Tinker.

# Auswers to Correspondents,

#### By N. LENIN.

Being further extracts from his 'letter to American Working Men," dated 20th Agust, 1918.

For the sake of "their" cause, that is for the conquest of world-power, the imperialists of England and Germany have not hesitated to ruin a whole row of nations, from Belgium and Servia to l'alestine and Mesopotamia. Shall we then he sitate to act in the name of the liberation of the workers of the world from the voke of capitalism, in the name of a general honourable peace; shall we wait until we can find a way that entails no sacrifice; shall we be afraid to begin the fight until an easy victory is assured; shall we place the integrity and safety of this "fatherland" created by the bourgeoiste over the interests of the international socialist revolution?...

The great Russian revolutionist, Tchernychewski, once said: Political activity is not as smooth as the pavement of the Newski Prospect. He in no revolutionist who would have the revolution of the proletariat only under the "condition" that it proceed smoothly and in an orderly manner. that the proletarians of all countries. immediately go into action, that guarantees against deseat be given beforehand, that the revolution go forward along the broad, free, straight path to victory, that there shall not be here and there the heaviest sacrifices, that we shall not have to lie in wait in besieged fortresses. Shall not have to climin ap along the narrowest paths, the most impassable, winding, dangerous mounmin roads. He is no revolutioni-t. he has not vei fred himself from the pedantry of houngeois intellectualism, he will fall back, again and again, into the camp of the counter-revolutionary bourgecisie.

They are little more than imitators of the bourgeoisse, these gentlemen who delight in holding up to us the "chaos" of the revolution, the 'destruction' of industry, the unemployment, the lack of food. Can there be anything more hypocritical than such accusations from people who greeted and supported the imperialistic war and made common cause with Kerensky when he continued the war? Is not this imperialistic war the eause of all our misfortune? The revolution that was born by the war must necessarily go on through the terrible, difficulties and sufferings that war created, through this heritage of destruction and reactionary mass murder. To accuse us of "destruction" of industries and "terror" is hypocrisy or clumsy pedantry, and shows an incapability of understanding the most elemental fundamentals of the raging, climactic force of the class struggle called revolution.

In words our accusers "recognise" this kind of class struggle, in deeds they revert again and again to the middle-class utopia of "class-harmony" and the mutual "interdependence" of classes upon one another. In reality the class struggle in revolutionary times has always inevitably taken on the form of civil war, and civil war

is unthinkable without the worst kind of destruction, without terror and limitations of the form of democracy in the interests of the war. One must be a sickly sentimentalist not to be able to see, to understand and appreciate this necessity. Only the Tchechow type of the lifeless "Man in the Box" can denounce the revolution for this reason instead of throwing himself into the fight with the whole vehemence and decision of his soul at a moment when history demands that the highest problems of humanity be solved by struggle and war.

American industry and commerce in el870 were in a much worse position than in 1860. But where can you find an American so pedantic, so absolutely idiotic as to deny the significance of the American civil war of 1860-65? The representatives of the bourgeoisie understand very well that the overthrow of slavery was well worth the three years of civil war, the depth of destruction, devastation and terror that. were its accompaniment. But these same gentlemen and the reform socialists who have allowed themselves to be cowed by the bourgeoisie and tremble at the thought of a revolution, cannot, nay, will not, see the necessity and righteousness of a civil war in Russia? though it is facing a far greater task, the work of abolishing capitalist wageslavery and overthrowing the rule of the hourgeoisie.

While the old bourgeois democonstitutions proclaimed cratic formal equality and the right of free assemblage, the constitution of the Soviet Republic genudiates the hypócrisy of a formal equality of all human beings. When the bourgeois rebublicans overturued jeudal thrones, they did not recognise the mies of formal equality of monarchisis. Since we here are concerned with the task of overthrowing the bourgeoisie, only fools or traitors will insist on the formal equality of the bourgeoisie. The right of free assemblage is not worth an iota to the workman and to the peasant when all betier meeting places are in the hands of the bourgeoisie. Our Soviets have taken over all usable buildings in the cities and towns out of the hands of the rich and have placed them at the disposal of the workmen and peasants for meeting and organisation purposes.

"As soon as we enabled the peasants effectually to manage without the landowners, and the workmen to organise their lives without the capitalists, as soon as the people grasped that it was possible to conduct the State without slavery and exploitation, it became clear to everybody and was proved in practice that no power, no counter-revolution in the world would be capable of overthrowing the power of the Soviet. The bourgeoisie of the world have recognised that the revolutionary proletariat is their arch enemy. . . Our south front is directed against Anglo-French Imperialism, the mightiest of all our enemies. But we do not fear them, for we know that for them also the struggle with the 'home enemy' is at hand. The power that has broken Germany is working also in England. We are in great danger, but we must and shall overcome it."—Lenin, October 22nd, 1918.

# Damning the Inconsequences.

Even H. M. Hyndman, a hater of Bolshevism if ever there was one, is constrained to say in "Justice" (9th January, 1919):

ment and its War Cabinet see a chance of rendering assistance to a militarist reactionary conspiracy than the British fleet and thousands of British soldiers were despatched to Russia in its support. The person directly responsible for Admiral Kemp's extraordinary behaviour at Archangel and for the help given to Gen. Koltchak's abominable coup d'etat at Oufa, against the members of a genuine democratic Assembly, was and is Lord Milner...

"See what it amounts to His Majesty's Government officially declares in January, 1918, that it is pledged not to intervene in internal Russian affairs for the purpose of uphoksling the Constituent Assembly, whose members are the friends of Great Britain, even with Russian troops. Shortly afterwards intervention is begun and carried on by Briffish troops and money, for and on behalf of men whose sole desire it is to re-establish Tsardom or a military dictatoorship... This shameful action was engineered here by Russian financiers of the lowest type, who were in constant touch with Lord Milner and the War Cabinet. . . By no fault whatever of our own, we, the common people of this island... who sympathise heartily with the mass of the Russian peasantry in their efforts to achieve their freedom, have been dragged by our Government into a disgraceful and ruinous policy towards our late Ally. Great Britain, in fact, next to Germany, is chiefly to blame for the economic and social anarchy which exists in Russin (1)-(linx).

# the Mail Cells the Cable Black.

A recent cable told how "Colonel" Ward described the Tsar's flesh being taken from a well. Now we have the mail version of Count Tolstof (junior's) lurid yarn (also recently served up in the same press, just when the "Morning Post" was telling us the Tsar was". still alive!) This version, appropriately dated from Rotter-dam, comes from the Count's paper, the "Vremya," which now, it seems, is published in Berlin. It says the bodies were "soaked with oil and set on fire, after which the ashes and smouldering bones were covered with earth." We are reminded of the story of a concert where, during a momentary unexpected pause in the sublime music, one crone was overheard saying to her neighbour in the audience: "I like them fried in oil best." Anyway, you can take your choice.

Meanwhile we read in a recent x-change that "the Tsar's eldest daughter, Olga, has become a real Bolshevik," taking part in all the meetings of workers and soldiers at Tobolsk, and so constantly in the company of a certain popular young orator that the local wags fear a marriage which would after all justify the Mensheviks in their charge that "Tsarism and Bol-

shevism go hand in hand'!

# The Eve of Revolution.

At the end of February, 1917, Lord Milner, now Colonial Secretary, was in Russia, investigating the truth.

He wasn't taken in by silly stories

of social unrest. Oh, no!

A" certain class of Russians," we are told, tried to interest the Allied delegates in these matters. They thought that they had some bearing on the situation.

"But," says the "Morning Post." man, "Viscount Milner dealt décisively with these efforts in his first public speech at Petrograd, brushing them

lightly aside."

"'If we believed only one-fourth of all we have been fold here," said this far-seeing, damn - the - consequences statesman, "I think we should very soon be candidates for a lunatic asy-

It was no use mentioning such a vulgar word as "Revolution" to Viscount Milner. He came back to Britain and told us all was well with Russia. The Tsar had been "very gracious." Everybody in Russia was in favour of getting on with the war. The only controversy in Russia was "merely a question of administration, in fact, much the same kind of controversy as we have here in England."

"A great advantage," he added, "is getting personally to know the people with whom one is dealing." It is in-

deed.

All this appeared in the "Times" on March 6th, 1917. A week later the Tsar was off his throne and the Revolution had begun.—"The Herald."

# Peasants and Workers.

M. Pichon said he believed 75 per cent, of the Ukraine peasants would be anti-Bolshevik. Well, the same was hoped of the Great Russian peasants, but "they are all Bolsheviks now."

"It is often said that the Bolsheviks bribed' the peasants by giving them the land. As a matter of fact, the peasants did not wait until the Bolsheviki gave the land. They took it when they despaired of getting it from the provisional government. But it is sheer madness to believe that it is possible to 'bribe' the peasants by taking away the land from them.".

John Reed describes in "The Liberator" the last scenes in the great Peasant Congress after it had plumped for joining the Soviets under the Bolsheviki, and how one after the other the peasants' misleaders were given the order of the boot, running from ex-

treme right down to the pseudo-radical Tchernov.

"I shall never forget the Peasant Conference which took place towards the end of November, and how Tchernov fought for control and lost it, and that wonderful procession of grizzled proletarians of the soil who marched to Smolny Iwhere the Bolshevik dolegates satl through the snowy streets, singing, their blood-red banner floating in the bitter wind. It was a dark night. On the steps of the Smolny hundreds of working-men were waiting to receive their peasant brothers, and in the dim light the two masses, moving one down and the other up; rushed together and embraced, and wept, and cheered...

# Railway Atrocities.

The magistrate, in giving his verdict at the inquest on the guard, James William Smith, killed in shunting operations on the Bluff line recently, said it was his duty to point out to the Railway Administration that the deceased had been on duty 19½ hours out of 25 when he met his death, and at that time had been sent to shunt over an unknown line in the dark where a stack of iron, of which he could not have been aware, jutted on to the footboard, catching him on the left groin. Talk of German atrocities, what

about capitalist atrocities at home? It is not only the railway workers who are jeopardised by Burton's Prussian administration. A whole town recently escaped being blown up only by a miracle. The other day we read of a truck being derailed at Germiston. But is it not a fact that owing to retrenchment and placing of an inexperienced signalman on the Germiston railway crossing, a goods train containing a truck of explosives went bang up against a blind point and coppled over the Victoria Street embankinent? It is common talk in Germiston, and every citizen shivers when he thinks of it. Economy spells atrocity!

That rump of reaction sitting at Berne, the so-called International Socialist Congress (which excluded the Russian, Italian, American, British, and large sections of the German and French Socialists) urged the inclusion of a Labour Charter in the League of Nations. This would no doubt be a solemn promise from the robbers not to extort surplus surplus values, only moderate robbery of the workers.

It reminds one of that pronunciamento of an American judicial award so beloved of Sam Gombers, wherein it was laid down once for all that Labour shall no longer be considered a commodity on the market. A Royal Road to

Freedom! "What! Working men are slaves? Hereafter it is decreed they shall be free. Stroke of the capitalist pen! Right! Now then boys! there goes the one o'clock hooter. Run back to work or you'll get vour wages docked, vou

know!!''

The Soviet Republic is being maintained in the teeth of "civil" war against it, just as the Western Parliaments were established in the teeth of civil war. "No Government," says the London "Athenaeum," "was ever more completely under the control of the rank and file, and the power of the latter is made the more complete by their entire control of the railways, of the land, and of the principal workshops. The franchise ... realises the old Greek ideal of a citizenship with its rights based only on the work rendered to the common weal. To-day every Russian is a proletarian, or rather no Russian is any longer a proletarian. The social life and the political life of the people become one: for the Soviets can manage industry without endangering the liberty of the people by bureaucratic control. We should desist from the witless levity of talk like that of M. Pichon who recently spoke of "the millions of Russians waiting to be delivered."

# Cape Notes.

The members of the Industrial Socialist League claim that it is the most active propagandist organisation, whether capitalist or labour, south of the Orange River. Last week's record was five outdoor meetings and two indoor, all of which were well attended. A lunch hour meeting was held last Friday at the Salt River works. The speakers were well received, and there was quite a rush for papers, pamphlets, etc. At our Saturday evening meetings the audiences are very large, averaging about a thousand or so, and the indoor lectures attract as a rule crowded houses. The local "Hymn of Hate" against the League as a Bolshevik organisation has subsided, but determined efforts are continually being made to have our meetings stopped, especially at Salt River where our meetings are a great success. The new hall in Avres Street is open every evening, with a few comrades always in attendance to chat with all who turn up and to hand out literature, etc.

The "Constitutional Socialist League," which has just appeared, and takes Bellamy for its apostle and "Looking Backward' for its Bible, is another unfortunate addition to that list of socalled Socialist and Labour organisations in the Cape who, forgetting that such a person as Karl Marx ever lived or that there is such a thing as the class-war, preach an emasculated and invertebrate doctrine appealing principally to those middle class sympathisers who throng their meetings and are not above putting a tickey into the

The I.S.L. is just about to organise a study class to study the economics and philosophy of Karl Marx, whose teachings it is that are behind the militant workers of the Clyde and South Wales and the Spartacus group in Germany. More especially will this class be needed in the near future, as the local university is likely to organise a Workers' Educational Association in Cape Town, with its teachings of "social peace and industrial harmony." The local Labour Parties (we are blessed with two) are still at each other's throats re the colour har, though there are now rumours of an attempt at reconciliation. We have had another election in which a Labour poet who is also a returned soldier and a lawyer, standing on behalf. of the S.A.L.P., was defeated by a Unionist. Whether he was rejected on account of his poetry, his profession, or his patriotism I do not know. Any of these would be a good reason indeed:

This paper will be posted for four weeks only (a) to subscribers whose subscriptions have expired, from date of expiry; (b) to persons recommended as likely subscribers.

M. LOPES.

To ensure receipt of paper thereafter. Postal Order for 5s., being one year's subscription post free, must be. sent during the four weeks to the "International," Box 4179, Johannesburg.

Printed by the U. P. & P. Co., Itd. for the I.S.L., Box 4179, Johannesburg.