THE INTERNATIONAL

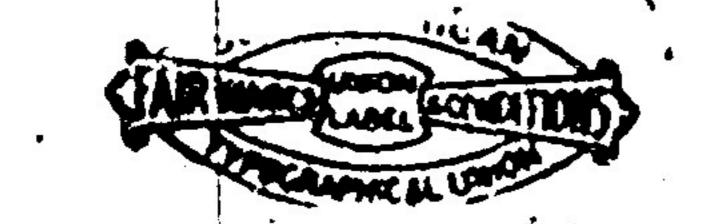
THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

P.O. BOX 4179.

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'Phone 6035.

No. 178



FRIDAY, APRIL. 4, 1919.

PRICE 10. WEEKLY,

The White "Soviet" and the Red Herring.

Last Tuesday the Power Station and Tramway men on strike in Johannesburg endorsed, rather than appointed, a white workers' "Board of Control" to carry out, in place of the self-confessedly "impotent" Town Council, the administration of the Municipal services. This Board at once resumed the tram, light and power supply, leaving it to events to determine whether and when it would abdicate in favour of the old Council, how and when it would assist the other striking workers, and how it would resist the inevitable "counter revolution" of the bourgeoisie and Government.

The New Strategy.

To criticise the personnel or intelligence of the Board would perhaps be out of place here. We can at any rate congratulate the municipal workers on having grasped the idea that the old-fashioned strike for better conditions, often unsuccessful and yet more often ruinous to the workers' funds, is being replaced to-day by the movement for Workers' Councils destined not merely to "control" industry and public institutions but to take them over from the present private owners or bourgeois public bodies and work them in the interest of the working class.

The Bourgeois bug.

The Board-might well have dropped its middle-class talk of "the public" or the "community" (i.e., society considered as a capitalist organisation, and the individuals supporting it as such) and its aping of official "obedient servant" style (as if all it wanted was Botha's job), and recognised its mission as a pioneer, however imperfect, in familiarising us all with the idea of the necessary dictatorship of the proletariat leading to a complete Socialist Commonwealth.

Faltering Steps.

But that recognition would at once have revealed to our would-be "Soviet" how very far behind that objective it had halted. In the first place, it could not pretend to be even a white Workers' Council for Johannesburg. It represented at best only organised Municipal workers: the organised workers of private industries were not invited to send their delegates by virtue of whose presence alone it could have begun to call itself a body representative of the workers of the Municipal area. Secondly, it did not succeed in ealling into being any corresponding Council outside Johannesburg proper: it has been brought, for the present at least, to a standstill in that town, whereas the essence of the movement renuires that it should be constantly spreading. Un the continy, it even announced itself as only a temporary institution.

though perhaps intending to be taken in the same sense as the Great Powers who announce their occupations of Egypt, for instance, or their seizure of Chinese Customs, as only temporary measures to secure certain demands. Finally, some of its spokesmen disclaimed for it any but advisory powers—the inevitable result of trying, as Labour members of Parliament are also limited to doing, to justify anti-capitalist, acts by capitalist scandards and to pro-capitalist audiences.

The Colour Bar.

But what is far more fundamental is its glaringly limited and sectional character within the ranks of the working class. Where did it reveal that solidarity of Labour, the hope of the world? Municipal workers, indeed? Where were the masses, the underdogs of Bantu race who far outnumber the whites in Municipal employ? Where, for instance, on this Board, were any delegates of the Sanitary Boys whose demand for 1s. a day rise nearly a year ago was at the time and has ever since been haughtily ignored by the whites? Presumably they were to be "controlled" by the "Board of Control"---the very word "Board" suggest all-powerful directors, noi communists, and "control of any except non-workers is not the meaning of Bolshevism.

The Masses Ignored.

The International Socialist League, having had as such no part in the remarkable it somewhat theatrical doings of the Strike Committees in the last few days, can fitly improve the occasion by again preaching the eternal verities of the movement in South Africa; and is thus in duty bound to repeat its warning, as before, that no workers' movement or revolution is worth the bones of a single champion which ignores or excludes the vast mass of the workers of this country, the most flagrantly oppressed victims of the most glaring form of capitalist exploitation, the exploitation of the black races and their labour by white capital: for that is after all broadly the sunmary of the labour position in South Africa. And if the upper white artisans are not with these masses they are against them, they are consciously or unconsciously kicking against the pricks of the proletarian movement they profess to espouse.

The Masses Moving.

If indeed there were "nothing doing" on the part of the underdogs, or
if the attitude of the white workers
were one of only benevolent neutrality
to them, their position would be more
excusable. But there is something doing down below there: a movement of
emancipation far more national (or
rather international), more far-reaching, more cutting at the root, more
brave and self-sacrificing, than mere

white Bolshevism can over he; a jacsive resistance movement at present in protest against that outward and visible sign of semi-chattel slavery of the natives, the Pass Law.

Workers Arming Against Workers.

Nor is there much sign of benevo-

lence either. On the contrary, the Municipal Workers' spokesmen have even been offering to help queli the native menace," and the Central Strike Committee passed a resolution last Monday which, while graciously admitting that the native was entitled to organise to improve his position. offered assistance to the Government to prevent outrages on white women and children. Outrages on white women and children? What right have these people, who could not work for a day without a horde of "outragers" to serve them, who are ensconced in a labour system which demands hundreds of thousands of these "outragers" as its indispensable basis, to complain of Black Peril? And for that matter. when has 'black peril' ever resulted from a native movement for emancipation? But more than that, what protest have these men made against the outrages on black men and women taking piace daily under their eyes in Johannesburg this very week? Why have they not offered their services to these their fellow-workers to protect them from the police and troops just called in to shoot them down and from the aiding and abetting white mob? What have they to say against the wholesale outrages, the burning injustices committed on black workers daily in the so-called courts of justice? Against the determined refusal, despite, all the rise in cost of living, of any increased wage to these toiling, sweating slaves? Against their suppression in compounds and locations, the frauds practised on them by the Department supposed to profect them but really protecting their bosses' interests, the instinctive bullying of them by the police, against their wholesale arrest, against the Kaffir Pogrom policy of the Government? Granted that when offered arms in accordance with this policy by Mr. Macfie the strikers demurred to signing on blindly in the Defence Force; yet the above resolution, which only renews the Federation's negotiations for arming Trade Unionist antinative-worker battalions last July, is such a dastardly piece of scabbery on the mass of proletarians of this country-and at best no organised working class should ever offer any assistance to any capitalist government—that we are more than justified in ridiculing the pretensions of any labour movement, and most of all a labour movement calling itself "revolutionary," which in either its initial or its subsequent stages presumes to proceed without the proletariat. (In fairness be it said that the bodies which breathe these anti-native threats are the same that

have dissociated themselves from the Board of Control, the S.A.I.F. appearing to be their inspiration.)

Capital's Red Herring.

As this paper has often pointed out, the capitalist class see the point and seize their opportunity. It is a godsend to them that a native strike is running simultaneously with the while one. As long as they can be count on the middle-class objective in white workers who want a final merely to instal themselves in command of the subject race, they are quite safe. While the orator shouts "Workers of the world unit." someone whispers "the Raffirs are rising '--oh, then, presto, let's bury the half let with our basses, who will give us guns justead to shoot their slaves with. It is to this bourgeois call and bourgeois workers' responsemore even than to S.A.I.F sabotage as such (though Messrs. Crawford and Mache are anything but strangers to each other, notwithstanding the latter's proposed plan of campaign against the Power Station strike last May) that we must ascribe the insufficient success of Johannesburg's first attempt at practical Bolshevism. Commendable as the attempt has been to popularise the idea of Workers' Councils and control—perhaps the first attempt of its kind in the British Empire—vet it was probably facilitated, and is certainly vitiated. by the fact that it is after all only an aristocrats' revolution, an affair of the Court as it were, and thus only prolongs the struggle of classes. The prospect of a general white strike even has easily gone down before the Government scare-blandishment.

The One Thing Needful.

It is humiliating to have to keep on emphasising that the assence of the Labour movement is Solidarity, without which it cannot win. The outstanding characteristic of the capitalist system in South Africa being its native labour, the outstanding movement of the country must clearly be the movement of its native labourers. And as it is only labour, organised and solid, that can break up capitalism, all prejudices, all homage to middle-class respectability or newspaper commendation in the name of the "public" or "the community," must be sunk in order to achieve that organisation and solidarity of South African Labour. Anything less will produce no victory at all, rather it will help the other side: certainly no victory of the very workers and peasants to whom victory means most.

Solving the "Native Problem."

Once the victory is won, the scene will no doubt change. The outstanding characteristic of the Socialist system in South Africa will certainly not be its native wage labour. The first great act of any proletarian revolution having secured political control is to restore the land to the people; in particular, to those who work on it. And again, no revolution will tolerate the exploitation of the labour of a subject race—Russia renounced its exploitation of China and Persia in the first week of its communist revolution. On. the basis of these two postulates a South African Socialist Republic will, until strong enough to expropriate all land, at any rate recreate the homes of the native-workers by lavishing energy, science, machinery and every

sort of aid on the building un of Communist agriculture, in the first instance in the divers native territories, later over wider and choicer areas, until it becomes possible for any community. more particularly if black, to live there a free, prosperous, educated and selfrespecting life, unharrassed by taxation, poverty, pass laws, native land · laws, private landowning, labour reerniting, Native Affairs Departments. spies, police and other enemies of the natives, or any inducement or compulsion to go to work for wages: on the contrary, a life made as attractive as it ean be, a life in model self-governing communities which will retain all they produce, or even produce more than they need retain and so supply the

whole country's foodstulls. Immediate expropriation will make good any deficiency of land in the existing areas, leaving complete expropriation for later attention. Incidentally the Creswellian embargo on imported indentured labour will of course take shape. In this way the cheap labour basis of industry will forthwith he undermined, and the white mon's fear of being undercut will dwindle away as he realises that under a Socialist system of food, shelter, clothing, education and culture for all, of whatever race, willing to work, there can be no such thing ·as being undercut—except in the case of those whose only idea of work is to make others work for them. That is the solution of the "Native problem.".

The Pogrom Begins.

Since the foregoing was written, the capitalist Government policy against which this paper has so often warned has been successfully applied. When the Russian workers were about to revolt in 1914, the war with Germany was let loose to scotch it. When the Socialist proPaganda, of the Jewish workers in that country became too formidable, the racial passions of the other workers, or at least of the Black Hundreds, were fanned into pogroms. When the workers on the Rand were getting restive in January, 1914, the "burghers" were called in to quell the Verdomde Engelsman. So when "Bolshevism" fires the fancy of the populace of Johannesburg and real industrial unrest is spreading, the best cure is the racial diversion, the 'native rising" stunt. the Kaffir pogrom: goading the natives to revolt; and once more armed mounted Dutch riflemen from the "Free State," these being considered the most virulent haters of the nigger, are brought in, though they be ex-rebels. Nationalists, or what not, to support the Government by charging the blacks with greater ferocity than that on the Market Square in July 1913 (for women carrying babies were also charged vesterday by the soldiers) and incidentally to split the so-called Bolshevism of our white workers. In that infamous "Belgian atrocity" charge it was not only the soldiers that laughed with blood lust in their eyes as they hit out at the flying natives on all sides: the Johannesburg lunch-time crowd, many of them no doubt Trade Unionists fresh from cheering Bolshevism in the Town Hall, not only jeered at the outrages but helped to catch and belabour any

male or female native luckless enough to be abroad at the time, proceeding afterwards to mob the editor of this paper as a presumed sympathiser with their victims. "Native menace," indeed! What gross distortion is this: Who are the menacers but the whites armed to the teeth, who the menaced. every time, if not the timid, unarmed: defenceless blacks, who voluntarily collect all sticks when they hold a meeting; our miserable slaves, who cannot even "act constitutionally" without the whites--English and Ducch --- standing to arms, whose reward for every Petition of Right is to be told they are "disloyal to the King" what wonder?—and, while flouted by officials indoors, to be knouted by Cossacks outside, or kicked, mauled and battered in their hundreds to and at the Marshall Square cells, like Homer's "souls sent gibbering to Hades"? Is it nothing to you, all ve "Bolshevists" who pass by? Or you "Spartacists," can you see Spartacus, the slave leader, or Liebknecht who took his mantle and was also reported to have attempted escape from custody, joining in yesterday's lynching affray? Did even the soldiers in France run amok like this against the Coloured Corps? Will they who want to blot out black men go and finish off the so-called French troops—negroes—who are "guarding" Odessa from the Russian workers f Buttalking of black guards, we need not travel outside our own town or colour to find plenty for whom lynchin" is too good.

Ye fools and blind! (We speak only to hostile working men—for other enemies we have no message but "short shrift' in the fulness of time), can you not see that by taking up this white against black red herring you are straying exactly where de Wet. Mentz, and some of your so-called Labour leaders, want you to stray? That you are playing completely into Capitalism's hands? That by scaring you with native risings, and flattering you as the "ruling class" of Labour, the master class drives you clean away from that united action of the industrial workers of Africa before which alone it trembles? Well, well, then, go on in your old ruts: let vour native fellow workers, like the Russian moujiks, be more progressive than you, and, if you will not help their advance, let them advance without ou and in spite of you! In that day you may find yourselves asking whether such an anti-white pogrom as is really involved in the Rev. Charles Phillips' letters would be wholly unjustifiable...

Hands off the black workers! The white workers might do worse than organise themselves as unofficial special constables to see to this, and to counteract the white Black Hundreds, instead of forgetting their Socialism, as in Germany and Britain at the outbreak of the war, in face of the socialed common enemy.

everywhere vastly more attractive to a noble soul than good social order without it, than society like a flock of sheep or a machine working like a watch. This mechanism makes of man only a product; liberty makes him the citizen of a better world."—Schiller.

The new Morality.

The basis of our present industrial system is the production of commodities for profit. It is social production, but with the profits accruing to a diminishing number of individual capitalists; a system of robbery, having a moral sanction enforced when necessary by the power of the State.

This moral suasion is used to reconthe masses to capitalistic owner--hip. It perverts the egoism of the workers, giving them the mental kinks hat distort their vision, so that they see the system not from the point of view of an exploited class, but from

that of the capitalist class.

All students of social science are aware of the fact that as the economic forces at the base of society evolve iney have their reflex in the social life of the community. The antagonism that exists in all class societies hecomes more pronounced owing to the change in the economic basis, gradually clearing the mental vision of the class whose mission it is to take control. With this clearer view the moral sanction prevailing loses its power to distort the egoism of the rising class. They discard the old morality and evolve an ethic, a new morality, in harmony with the ideology based upon the new system of co-operative production and distribution destined to operate in the new society, that must replace the old

The germ of the new morality of humanitarianism has evolved within our present society. The very nature of our influstrial system has compelled its growth. The morality of individual competition has lost its sanction. By evolution from a simple to a complex system of production it has herded the workers into large workshops and towns. It has concentrated the productive tools. It has reduced the number of capitalists by combining their interests in corporations and trusts. It has developed social production for the world's markets: a social machine production under which no one individual can say "Alone I produced this com-

modity."

This economic development has gradually given rise to a revolt against an ethic of individualism that sanctioned the right of the individual to make good at the expense of his fellows--the ethic of everyone for himself and the devil take the hindmost, an othic that has given sanction not only to the crushing of the individual capitalist but to the robbing of the producers of weal in the product of their labour, for which in return they receive but a mis-

erable pittance.

This new ethic of humanity is being laid hold of by the apologists of capitalistic society and by emotional individuals for the purpose of "bringing together Capital and Labour." These emotional advocates of the ethic of human welfare have larger hearts than brain power. Carried away by the brutal conditions of modern industrial capitalism—they dream of changing the hearts of the employing class so that they may treat their employees as human beings and not, as heretofore, as cogs in the wheels of industry. Such fantastic schemes show a total ignorance of the system that recognises no bond except profits between the two classes. —"The Dial."

The paid hirelings of the big capitalists are not ignorant of that cash nexus between employer and employed. Their pharisaical schemes for the welfare of humanity are but an effort to continue the present system of greed and grab. Their prating of human values that have been meglected in the past is but an effort on their part to distort the egoism of the worker. In the interests of their economic musters they are out to pervert the new morality as they have perverted everything in the past that was of any value to the toiling masses.

- Too late are these efforts being made for humanity. They are but despairing efforts to continue a system that is tottering to its downfall. The system is bankrupt materially and morally, and must go: On its ruins will rise the cooperative commonwealth that will give humanity, individually, and collectively the earth and the fulness thereof.

J.M.G.

AS IT WAS IN THE BECINNING!

We have just been told for the first time that Greek mercenaries are fighting the Bolsheviks in the Ukraine. Lafargue notes the fact that the first form of wage labour in history was that of Greeks hiring themselves out to other nations as soldiers—to the Persians, etc. Couple that with the remark of William Morris that systems show in their inauguration the germs of their closing phases, and we can guess that the hiring of men out as mercenaries will also be the last form of wage labour. But it requires no subtle logic to see that we are in the last stage of Capitalism. . D.L.J.

The Press Committee is congratulating itself on the fact that the circulation and subscribers' list of the "International" have doubled in the last six months.

The Industrial Workers of Africa have intimated to the S.A.I.F. their desire to be represented at the forthcoming Industrial Congress in May. Now is the Federation's opportunity to bring itself abreast of the times.

To find the "Star" commending to Com. Andrews the example of Lenin as an apostle of law and order is rich! What will the vigilant associations, those vultures of the battle fields out for the carrion of trade, what do they say to the 30,000 tons of notash which the British Government has just imported from Germany?

Hungary rings up Moscow for "Lenin, leader of the International Proletariat," and Lenin says, "Hang on a bit while the Moscow Congress is on." It sounds like news from Nowhere! Indeed, it is stranger than any fiction of Morris, Bellamy or Wells, and we are only beginning yet.

Apropos of the recent news that the London bankers were averse to extorting an indemnity from Germany (the gospel of forgiveness) the mail issue of the "Forward" reports that Bottomlev in the House of Commons drew attention to the fact that one London hank had £5.000,000 invested in pre-

League Notes.

The arrangements for May Day celebrations are well in hand. A well attended meeting of the General Committee was held in the Palmerston Hall and the sub-committees reported progress. The next meeting will be held in the Palmerston Hall on Sunday, the 13th inst., at 10.30 a.m. All comrades are invited to attend.

Tickets (2s. 6d. each) are available for the Social evening which will conclude the May Day celebrations at the Selborne Hall. They may be obtained of the Joint Secretaries, T. Kessler and B. Benjamin; also at the Head Office of the League and of members of the Committee.

BENONI BRANCH.

A public meeting will be held in the Balcony Tea-rooms this Sunday, April 6th, at 8 p.m. Speaker: Com. J. P. Anderson of Germiston.

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH.

(Box 2202).

A general meeting will be held this Sunday, the 6th inst., at 10 a.m., in the Palmerston Hall, Commissioner Street. Business important.

Open air meeting at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, 6th inst., at the corner of Commissioner and Ferreira Streets. Comrades I. Jasse, S. Barlin, A. Adler and I. Kessler will speak in Yiddish.

Study Class every Wednesday even-

ing at 8 p.m..

A Social will be held in Professor West's Hall, Pritchard Street, on April 9th. Tickets at the door or of Com. I. Kessler and Head Office.

JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

A general meeting will be held in the Palmerston Hall on Tuesday, 8th inst., at 8 p.m. sharp.

Study Class, Friday, April 11th, at Palmerston Hall, at 8 p.m. S. Barlin will lecture on "The Industrial Revolution in South Africa." All comrades are invited.

Open air meetings, all at 7.30 p.m.: To-morrow: Fordsburg Market Sq.: W. Gibson, I. Kessler, H. Barendregt: also at corner of Marshall and Maddison Streets, Jeppes: W. Reid, S. Ward and C. Dones.

Sunday, April 6th: Town Hall (West End): T. P. Tinker, W. H.

Andrews, C. B. Tyler.

Saturday, April 12th: Fordsburg Market Square: T. P. Tinker, L. A. Shoul and J. Black.

Saturday, April 12th: Jeppes: H. Barendregt, W. J. Gibson, R. Rodger. Sunday, April ... 13th: Town Hall (West End): E. J. Stewart, C. Dones,

T. P. Tinker.

PRETORIA BRANCH.

Open air meeting this Sunday, the 6th, at 8 p.m. on Church Square. Speakers: L. Shoul and W. J. C. Gibson.

"In Washington's time America almost had a civil war because the Government refused to intervene in the French Revolution, on behalf of the revolutionists. And not even the most severe critics of the present leaders of the Soviet Government have said onetenth as bitter things as were said of Robesnierre and Marat in their day.

Comrades.

The Executive of the Comrades of the Great War has, we are told, placed the services of that organisation at the disposal of the Government for the campaign against Bolshevism in South Africa. Well. Socialist meetings at Cape Town are regularly protected by bodyguards of soldiers and sailors, both discharged and in the service: and in Johannesburg it was a returned soldier who at the I.S.L.'s big meeting last Sunday night proposed "that this mass meeting of citizens of Johannesburg here assembled demands the immediate withdrawal of the Allied forces from Russia and elsewhere. whose aim is nothing else than to prevent the oncoming social revolution. So that we are once more forcibly reminded how remote the bourgeois personnel of these)swell executives is from the feelings of the rank and file.

It is only fair to say that the story of the projected St. Bartholomew massacre for the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution now appears to have had some foundation. Zinovieff, President of the Petrograd Soviet, exasperated by constant intrigue and threats of assassination, did make a speech or issue a leastet inviting the soldiers, workers and poorer peasants to exercise "mass terror." But the Soviet, backed by Lenin, forthwith deposed Zinovieff for this, had the offending leaflet withdrawn, and promulgated the annesty instead. Zinovieff's place was taken by Lunarcharsky, celebrated as a humanitarian, whose place in the Cabinet as People's Commissar of Education was given to Maxim Gorky.

Navvy Ward wrote from Siberia a long letter against Bolshevism, for consumption in the capitalist press of England. After slandering the Bolsheviks he remarked to his friend Appleton:

"I see that a general election is on.

Where do I come in!"

In other words: "Here's a pack? of lies, what offers!" And this is behind every lie manufactured about the Bolsheviks—"boodle."

Growing contradictions of capitalism: Korean Revolts. Egyptian Insurrections. Hungary becomes Soviet. Allies lose Ukraine. Italy won't play at Peace Conference. France wants the Rhine but America won't let her. The Triple Alliance representing a good quarter of the British population on verge of strike. French troops occupy Spartacist towns. British troops occupy Głasgow. Bolshevik army marching on Germany. Japan a thorn to the rose of Peace. Wilson's League of Nations Olive Branch carried by the Capitalist Raven. Who can doubt that these are insoluble complications and portend the speedy end of capitalism.

Noteworthy hint in the message of General Plumer to the Peace Conference urging more food for Germany that the British soldiers had complained about the destitution of the German women and children. This complaint must have been made in some particularly effective manner before the High Command could have thought fit to take diplomatic notice of it; seeing also that Army Regulations make it a penal offence for soldiers to hold meetings! Well done, Tommy Atkins!

What is Class Corscieusness?

DOES IT REQUIRE KNOWLEDGE OF THEORY?

Is it necessary for the masses to have a knowledge of Socialist theory in order to make working class action effective? The more of that knowledge the better. But is all working-class action, even though it accelerate the revolution, vitiated by the fact that the masses do not read Karl Marx?

We Socialists can save ourselves a lot of nervous irritation if we do not demand of the working class too great a consciousness of its historic mission.

Rain and sunshine do not theorise about their own elements. "They are it" (to use popular slang) of which the theorists theorise.

Likewise the working class, the revolutionary proletariat (as Marx loved to term it), it is revolutionary in function, in all itdoes as a class, without thinking a great deal about the matter.

It was a profetariat, and it was a revolutionary profetariat before Marx; just as we have reasons for believing that America was there all the time, although Columbus only discovered it in 1492.

The soldiers who mutinied the other day had no conception of a Soviet Republic. But the effect of their action was to accelerate the Social Revolution by shattering in one day the military regime on which the present system is resting,

He is no Marxist who sneers at all working class action that is "not out for control," not shouting revolutionary slogans, but confines itself to the immediate needs through increase of solidaricy.

The chief gain in all the battles of attrition with the capitalist class is the growing unity of the workers. (Marx.) And the working class is most revolutionary when it doesn't shout the theory from the house tops. In proletarian revolutions, to quote the master again, the phrase lags behind the substance.

Marxism engenders patience and loving kindness towards the masses; not censoriousness and sneers as some are too inclined to assume. While the theorists theorise, and search out the whole course of the revolution, the workers are working and carrying the world on their backs.

The Marxian dialectic—mirror of that profound movement that animates all nature — has no place for annoyance with the rain or the stars, or the sunshine or the working class or any other living thing which moves and has its being by no theory, but by the inevitable law of two and two makes four.

In this mirror is seen how the mean triumphs of the capitalists no less than the generous mistakes of the workers are all of them roads to the final victory of the world-wide proletariat.

Clear the course for Socialist education, which brings patience to the few and firmness of tread to the revolutionary mass.

BERONIA.

The newspaper campaign against the Socialists recalls Figaro's famous saying: "Calomniez, calomniez, il reste toujours quelque chose": keep on throwing mud, some of it always sticks.

A Protest.

The cables state that a British Red Cross Mission has now taken charge of 50,000 Russian prisoners in Germany. How did this come about? Here, perhaps, is the explanation (and probably the 50,000 are being prevented from reaching their homeland):

"The Government of the Russian Soviet Republic appeals to the Central Committee of the International Red Cross Committees, and draws their attention to the outrageous crime committed by the present Polish Government against the delegates of the Russian Red Cross, staying in Poland to assist the Russian prisoners of war who were passing through. Without cause, and in defiance of the most elementary rules governing the relationship of peoples, the delegation was thrown into the Warsaw citadel. On December 30th its members were dragged by the gendarmes and soldiers of the present Polish Government to the frontier of the County of Grodno, led into a wood near the village of Menia in the Bielsk district, and there massacred. Comrades Veselovski, Dr. Klotzmann, Marie Alter and Avvasova were shot; the fifth member of the delegation, the son of Comrade Alter, was wounded, and Pilsudki's assassins thought he was dead. But he succeeded in escaning and finding refuge at Minsk."-From the Zurich "Volksrecht."

In 1866, during the discussion on "The Exhaustion of British Coalfields," Professor Tyndall said: "The destiny of this nation is not in the hands of its statesmen, but of its coal owners." To-day, in 1919, we say the destiny of the nation is in the hands of the workers, particularly the coal miners. How will they shape this destiny?—"Solidarity."

"Liberty, not theology, is the enthusiasm of the ninetcenth century. The very men who would once have been conspicuous saints are now conspicuous revolutionists, for while their heroism and disinterestedness are their own, the direction which these qualities take is determined by the pressure of the age."—W. H. Lecky.

NOTICE.

To whom it may concern, that the undersigned, having disposed of his interest in the firm of SKINNER and WRIGHT, Cycle and Motor Engineers, is no longer connected with that firm as from the 13th March.

(Signed) R. SKINNER.

3-3.

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

To ensure receipt of namer 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. Ca., Ltd., for the I.S.L., Box 4179, Johannesburg