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THE INTERNATIONAL

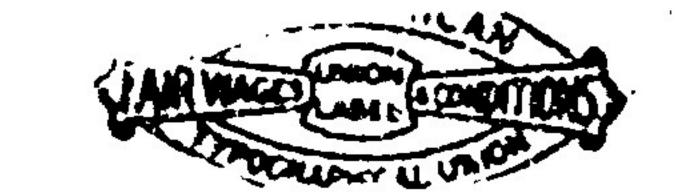
THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

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No. 187



FRIDAY, JUNE:, 199

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Noies and C mmenis.

MILITARY HONOURS.

nent, for the Police in every country are the last servants to desert the tyrant class-charge those who fought for freedom and beg for jobs. Without arms now, they are no longer soldiers but the "rabble."

Soldiers retaliate by offering to scab on the police if they strike for "recognition": and when the next batch of returned men march on Buckingham Palace, it may be their own ex-comrades in arms that will charge them, while men in blue will stand with them.

The British Government declares it can do no more for returned soldiers: but it is evidently the game, there as here, to foster "civil war" between different groups of Government servants, ex-soldiers or otherwise.

What is the moral? That the wage earners' movement must inevitably suffer reverses
nuless based on complete class solidarity irrespective of whether you are a policeman
or a soldier, in uniform or in mufti, a tinker
or a tailor, a Belgian or a foreigner, an artisan or a labourer, a miner or a hammer
hov

SOLDIER CLASS-CONSIOUSNESS.

The Discharged and Demobilised Soldiers' and Sailors' Union of the Rhondda Valleys has passed a resolution declaring that, if called upon in the case of a miners' strike to shoot down their fellow-workers, they will recognise that the time has gone for ever when the workers can be split up into soldiers and civilians.

"El Socialista," in Madrid, Spain, of January 13, published a report from Buenos Aires, Argentina; containing the information that during the recent goneral strike in that city the soldiers refused to fire on the striking workmen when ordered to do so by their commanders. "El Socialista" captioned uns report with the words: "Bravo, Argentine Soldiers!" The Spanish military commander of Madrid immediately paid a visit to the office of "El Socialista" to take proper steps against the paper for publishing such seditions news. "El Socialista" in its next day's issue declared that the jurisdiction of the military anthorities of Madrid does not extend to the Argentine Republic, and since the item had only reference to an occurrence in South America it was none of the Spanish militarists' business.

WAKING UP.

And sh, after all the ramming of Canada down our throats as an example to us all. of Imperial patriotism, we find her opening that general strike so urgently called for everywhere to stop the war on Bolshevisin--for that its the most far-reaching, if not perhaps made the most prominent; of the strike demands; the most truly patriotic in the interest of the working class, the most loyal to the Red Plag. If Canada, why not the U.S.A.? And if in British Columbia, why not in Bhitish Britain? Or South Africa? The masses don't want the war, but acquiesce in it as though it did not concern them. When is that "Triple Alliance" going to pull itself and them together and strike a historic blow for liberty? That is the kind of "force" the world is gasping for to beat the "Peace Conference's" terroristic rule by force of arms.

FORENSIC FIGHTS.

Importance to the movement has been conferred on the prosecution of our Comrade J. den Bakker at Benoni for "assault" by the cridence of a policeman and two others

that they heard Com. W. H. Andrews say "those who went fighting the Germans were murderers, and the black man is as good as the white man"; statements which Com. Andrews naturally denied in toto having made, as anyone who knows his views would expect. We will not comment at This stage further than to renew our appeal for Defence Fund contributions, for as our Cape Town comrades also realise, we must not concede a single foot of ground which would encourage our ruling class to think it can safely rely on police court cases for protection. We congratulate Com. Lopes on his discharge. Comrades Jones' and Greene's appeal will be heard very shortly in the Supreme Court at Maritzburg.

O.B.U

The protest meeting called for this Sunday night at the Palladium Theatre, Johannesburg, by the Railway Union and "seven other" Upions marks a new departure in the function of industrial organisations in South Africa. Not only the Railway Union itself, but Industrial Unions as such in general, appear for the first time, we think, on the political arena to oppose the political weapons forged by organised capital to suppress free speech, press and propaganda. A promising step towards the day when labour, organised in one Union for every purpose, shall by the sheer strength of its organisation eliminate the masters' rule, and politics, now become no better than an engine of capitalist oppression, shall give place to the Industrial Commonwealth in which there shall be neither ruling nor oppressed class.

Fight for Free Speech.

The aggregate meeting of Transvaal Branch members which was held last Sunday in the Palmerston Hall was well attended. Comrade W. H. Andrews presided and amongst other matters discussed was the question of running I.S.L. candidates for public bodies. It was decided to recommend Branches to consider the advisability of taking such action at the next elections whether Parliamentary or Municipal. In regard to the proposed amendment to the Public Welfare and Moratorium Act, it was decided to co-operate with industrial labour bodies with a view to holding protest meetings against the proposals. The National Union of Railway and Harbour Servants is taking the matter up. and through its general secretary, Mr. W. Moore, has convened a public meeting at the Palladium Theatre on Sunday, 8th inst., at 8 p.m. It is hoped that all liberty lovers will roll up and make the protest an impressive one. The following item appears in the agenda of the various Railway Union branches: ---

"Proposal to organise demonstrations of all Unions all over South Africa, to protest against the iniquitous proposed law restricting freedom of speech, etc., and to insist upon the recognition of the principle of Joint Control in management.

Guised, there will be a danger of the most autocratic reactionary more than Prussian Legislation being passed this Parliamentary

"Is this the new era for freedom for which South Africa has been fighting and shedding its blood?"

Don't miss the public lecture on "Liberty," at the Selberne Hail next Thursday night at 8 p.m. Speakers: W. H. Andrews and C. B. Tyler. Chairman: S. P. Bunting.

Judge v. ury.

NO PARALLEL WITH LOCAL CASE.

In his summing up and charge to the jury in the Clyde Strike Trial, the Lord Justice Clerk, Scott Dickson, "looked at the riddled and battered evidence for the Crown, saw that the prosecution was a gigantic frame-up to justify the ferocity of the police on Bloody Friday, ruled out irrelevant charge after irrelevant charge, and in so many words practically told the jury that there was no case against the accused, and that they should be found not quilty."

found not guilty."

"We have nothing to do in this Court with politics or red flags," he said, "and nothing to do with whether this strike was a proper or an improper strike. For my part, if I may parody a phrase used by a very distinguished man, I would far rather havo a good verdict than a press. In regard to the red flag I think that directly it has nothing to do with the charge. It might be thought indirectly to have some bearing in colouring the extreme views of those who were taking part. I understand it is a political symbol and sign. Whatever it is, it has the capacity apparently of exciting paroxysms of indignation and derision in some quarters, and enthusiasm beyond bounds in others."

All this was too much for a middle-class jury. Had not their Press told them that, Shinwell was, like Trotsky, an accursed Jew, and that Gallacher was a Sinn Feiner? One juryman, to his honour, held that all the ac-· cused were innocent; the majority demanded victims, and so four of the accused—Shinwell. Gallacher, Murray and M'Cartney - were "found" guilty. The jury could not rise to the Judge's recommendation that they should seek a righteous verdict rather than "a good Press." Instinctively they shrank from incurring the foaming hostility of their class newspapers—and what that hostility would have been had they found the bourgeoisie no victims is evident from the frenzied comments of such papers as the Glasgow "Evening News." which did not seek to hide its chagrin that only four of the accused were sentenced.

Eye witnesses in Court declare that they never saw a man so obviously nonplussed as was the Lord Justice Clerk at the jury's verdict. He fumbled with his papers, he hesitated, he retired to consider his course of action, and, when finally he delivered the sentences, he did so without admonition to the accused, or even pretence of concurrence with the jury's verdict. "Forward."

The Socialist Parry of Japan, according to the French daily paper, "Le Populaire," has issued a manifesto in the form of an Address to, the Conneil of Werkers' and Soldiers' Soviets in Russia, in which the Executive Conmittee of said party malees the following comment: "All of our attention is given to the progress of the Russian Revolution, and it is with profound sympathy that we observe the vigorous advance of the Russian proletariatan advance which produces an ineffaceable impression on the soul of the Japanese people. We are full of indignation at the methods of the Japanese Government, which, under one unimportant pretext or another. sends its troops into Siberia in order to check the free development of the Russian Revolution. We regret very much not being sufficiently strong in our organisation to ward off the present danger which menaces you on the part of our Imperialistic Government. But you may rest assured that, although persecution by our government stares us in the face, the flag of liberty will foat some day over Japan."

A White (Lie) Paper.

The choicest garbage about Bolshevism, similar to what has flooded the Allied Press for the past year, has been raked up by the British Government as a scrap of White Paper, as if the official imprimatur still carried weight notwithstanding the common knowledge now that governments openly engage in violent partisan "propaganda." It contains "reports from H.M.'s official representatives in Russia' (after the Lockhart-Cromie case we know what to expect from them) "from other British subjects who have recently returned from that country" (being British subjects they are of course more truthful than others, and notoriously capable of appreciating "foreigners") "and from independent witnesses of various nationalities" (how internationalist we can be when the interests of international capital and cosmopouran bondholders are threatened by social revolution!). The paper is opportune just now to cover the Allies' breach of faith in sending expeditions after repeatedly declaring they would do no such thing, and to coax a few more volunteers to the Arctic.

Many of the contributors are "too modest to reveal their identity," nor is it clear whether or how long ago they were in the scenes they describe. One of the most prolific contributors to this precious decunént is a Mr. Alston, the British representative s at Vlædivostok, which is only about 4,000. miles from Moscow. What of that? Do we not all know the "native mind" through and through and simultaneously Aeclare it '40,000 miles from our cwn? Needless to say, there is not a single letter from any of the millions of Soviet supportors.

The documents have not been edited carefully enough. One "witness" writes that there is no actual food famine in Russia, but on the contrary there are enormous stocks of foodstuffs which could be spared for the rest of Europe; while another descants on the terrible effects of underfeeding. One repeats the now thrice buried slander about nationalisation of women, while another says "he has heard nothing about it." (Compare the story that Lemin spends £300 à week on his food, with the Harmsworth "Children's Newspaper" stating that Lenin is an honest man and would scorn to take advantage of his position.)

On page 69 a Norwegian B. reports; that a man named J. had told him that Bolshevik spamphlets were being printed in Sanskrit, a language, says "Forward," "deader even than the now maggotty falsehoods that the Press Bureau authorised for publication in the early months of the war."

Of course you can collect atrocities in any war-bound, and especially civil-war-bound, country. The White Paper is silent on the peace time atrocities under the Tsardom for whose restoration the Allies are heading, and on the blockade atrocities under Big-Fourdom, or the counter-revolutionary atrocities in Finland or Koltchak's country (where the 300 hanged on lamp-posts in one town, being workmen, do not matter). We read the other day of a priest having water poured on him and being frozen to death. We also heard the other day of a mob desiring to set fire to a man who had been tarred and feathered-not in Russia.

An alleged article in the organ of the Red Army dated September 1st, 1918 (just when the Lockhart affair was exposed), calling for floods of bourgeois blood, is quoted to curdle ours. The "Spur" in retort quotes Miss Winifred Blatchford in the "Clarion" of October 19th, 1917—what we have heard hundreds more say---

"As I said in writing of the 'Retreat from Mons, the killing of every German on the globe can never wipe out the deed perpetrated on one little child; but the more there are killed the less there will be to defile the earth, and I am for reprisals all the time. Not a German should be left on the globe if I could press a button and blow them all to bits. Every one of them, each of them, all of them, every one. I hope my soft-hearted friends grasp that."

There is a whine about British subjects being arrested without charge (they were released shortly afterwards). Is Russia the only country where that occurs, or must British subjects, because British, expect better treatment in foreign countries whose hospitality they abuse by plotting against them, than they get in their own-or in their colonies. . . ? The White Paper says nothing about the Secret Treaties, publication of which was not likely to increase trust in the hona-fides of everything done under the protection of the Union Jack.

The same document says "a yacht is ready at Peterhof to take Lenin away." Presumably it is getting up steam by now. And "the Soviet Power is in touch with the Germans." But it is all right for the Entente Powers to be co-operating with the Germans against the Soviet Power, isn't it?

Capt. Cromie was "murdered," but the three he shot, being only natives of the country, were only "killed": the same nice choice of words as we have had recently incables from Egypt.

According to all the documents the Soviet Government messes up everything so badly that it is a wonder it needs, outside force to crush, it.

For those who have learn't to read that sort of stuff, the foreword of the White Paper is not far wrong when it says "The documents speak for themselves."

Business—as Usual.

An American lately required from Russia writes in the "Workers' Dreadnought" of . the pro-eapitalist propaganda circulated among the troops there to disguise the object of the expedition, and of its comparative non-Success:--

Very few soldiers know that the Bolsheviks have agreed to pay the war-debts. The Bolshevik answer to the Prinkipo invitation was never published in English in the Murmansk district. Matters damaging to the Bolsheviks in Anglo-Saxon eyes are rushed into print at once. That Pandora tale of the nationalisation of women, which has flown everywhere on mischievous wings, was printed and distributed among all the men. Of course, all the men read it! Other propaganda stuff was put before them. In among magazines sent out to the troops just about election time were hundreds of leaflets of the the National Democratic Party, lauding the Government.

I heard one officer say, being irritated upon receiving news that his battalion should march on to Archangel: "Our being here is nothing but a capitalists' scheme to get a hand on the mines of Russia." One officer high in command spoke to me with surprising frankness: "Of course, I know very well why we are here. I, as an English officer, am here in the interest of England, in the interest of England's prosperity. I am a regular army man; we cannot have an army without money, and we as a nation cannot have money without an army." "But," I asked, "are the Italians and the French here also in the financial interest of their countries?" "Certainly," he responded. "And how about the Americans?" I questioned: "Don't vou believe in the sincerity of Wilson with his fourteen points?" "Very likely he is sincere," said the officer; "perhaps our Lloyd George is sincere also, but our politicians are only the tools of our more clever business men and real rulers." Many officers think that way, and among them, oddly enough, are Canadians, but other officers think-more along the lines on which our phrase-makers talk.

The men of the 14th Infantry Regiment (France) were asked to volunteer for Russia. Not a single one of them offered, whereupon one hundred were picked out to go. The garrison of Mont Valerien also were requested, and not a soul volunteered.

Grave news from Archangel. American soldiers are refusing to advance, as they consider the war against Russia a crime. The officers demand that retreats be ordered so as to quieten the men.

Friend Killchak.

Admiral Koltchak is now being hailed as the saviour of Russian freedom against the Bolsheviks. An interview with N. V. Svialitsky, a member of the assembly at Ufa and of the Socialist Revolutionary delegation which has arrived in Moscow to negotiate with the Soviet Government, shows what non-Eelshevik Russian democrats think of him.

Kolichak, he said, has failed to unite, not only the whole of Russia, but even Siberia, since Eastern Siberia continues to be occupied by the Japanese, who are acting there quite independently, only supporting in places the hands of Semenoff, which do not recognise Koltchak.

The Czechs more than once told us that they would be glad to help us to overthrow Koltchak, but they feared a rupture with the Allies.

However, the Czecho-Slovak soldiers soon realised the tactics of their rulers and began. to leave the front in masses. The Czech National Council does not exist now.

The Siberian population from the very first

did not recognise Koltchak.

The genuinely democratic forces, represented by the Bolsheviks, the Right Social Revolutionaries and the Mensheviks, are acting in concert throughout Siberia. Koltchak's front was disorganised even by the time of the beginning of our negotiations at Ufa. since his soldiers were either leaving the iront or going over to the Soviet Red troops; and now, after the dissemination of our manifesto, the decomposition of the front will we hope proceed still faster.

li must be pointed out that the officers of Kohehak's army are one mass of reactionary

monarchists.

Many members of the Constituent Assembly have been shot by them (we cannot give their names as yet, as certain facts have not. . yet been verified). It is characteristic that the Right Social Revolutionaries have suffered particularly heavily at the hands of the Koltchakists.

On December, 23, during the rising at Omsk, all political prisoners were set free, including Socialist Revolutionaries and Social Democrats. Some of them, not finding any shelter, were obliged, in view of the 45 degrees of frost (Fahr.), to return for the night to prison. The next morning, nine in number, amongst whom was Maisky, the Menshevik Minister of the Samara "Government," "well known in London," they were taken outside the town in an automobile by Koltehakist officers and shot.

The day after the arrest of the members of the Constituent Assembly, carried out by Koltchak's band at Ufa, the remnants of the executive bodies of the Congress and of the Socialist. Revolutionary Party gathered together on December 5 and passed a resolution abandoning military conflict with the Bolsheviks and calling upon the whole of the democracy to unite in a war with reaction .--"Daily Herald."

Police Commissioner Noske, the man who seems to be glad and proud to-day that Liebknecht and Luxemburg are forever removed from the revolutionary arena, is unworthy of the name Socialist. He is the same individual Noske who, immediately after the invasion of the German army in Belgium, appeared at the Maison du Peuple, the Socialist headquarters in Brussels, dressed in Prussian officer's uniform, and tried to explain and justify the destructive work of the Kaiser's war machine in Belgium. Very indignantly, yet politely, our Belgian comrades in Brussels refused to have anything to do with this miserable wretch of a would-he Socialist and gave him to understand that his presence. at the Maisor du Peuple was very annoying to the comrades who, by many years of sacrifices, built up that magnificent temple of the Socialist Prolétariat of Brussels.-G. Hoehn in the "Melting Pot."

"Don't ask f'r rights. Take thim. As" don't let anny wan give thim to ye. A right that is handed to ye f'r nawthin' has some. thin' the matter with it."—Mr. Dooley.

Quod Ubique.

The New York "Nation" wrote recently:

When the Espionage Act was passed, to be followed by a long train of invasions upon the fundamental principles of civil liberty, war-mad officials and their complaisant apologists in the universities and the press were loud in their assurances that while we could not defeat Germany except by Prussianising ourselves, yet with the end of the war we should promptly and automatically go back to the old condition in which the citizen was free to think for himself, and to express his thoughts in speech or writing, so long as he did not violate the law or disturb public order.

Thoughtful people pointed out that the weapon of suppression which officials had learned to use against dissentients would almost certainly be employed later by the holders of political and economic power against the Socialists and other thoroughgoing critics of the existing order.

Exactly thus has it fallen out. The economic protestant was denounced as pro-German

and presently as pro-Bolshevik.

Then the public authorities began taking a hand. City Councils and State Legislatures vied with one another in passing anti-redflag measures. Peaceable Socialist parades were broken up if not by the orders, at least with the connivance, of those whose business it is to enforce the laws impartially.

The pelice of New York have got quite a number of larger halls about the city to agree to refuse the Socialists the use of their places for meetings, and expect to bring about a general boycett through the co-operation of business owners and lessees.

The "Nation" in the present premises is concerned with preserving to every law-abiding citizen and organisation the right to prosent for public consideration his ideas, no matter how erroneaus they may appear.

The democracy that cannot preserve that right for its minorities cannot live. It is the men who are ilenying that right, and not the Socialists or H.W.W.'s, who are the most dangerous enemies of the social order to-day,

For we live indeed in perilous times. Privilege in Russia and Germany has dissolved, and in Great Britain is on the brink of dissolution. The people have lost faith in their rulers and leaders.

We desire no violent revolution, and therefor we adjure the holders of privileges and power solemnly to consider whither their present course of repression leads.

Britain eclipses South Africa with her new Aliens Bill. It extends for two years more the Aliens Restriction Act, under which foreigners, Allied or otherwise, must be registered with the police, get police permission to travel more than five miles, etc. Aliens may be punished by ten years' penal servitude or three months on summary conviction for inciting to sedition or disaffection. "If any alien promotes or attempts to promote industrial unrest in any industry in which he is not bona-fide engaged in the United Kingdom, he shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months."

Workers of Africa, resist to the utmost all legislation, be it only the thin end of the wedge, tending not only to divide you on artificial race lines, but to strike at the root of working class liberty of propaganda. Surely you can see what the game is now!

The "Christian Science Monitor" gives prominence to a proposal by the General Executive of the I.W.W. of America to link up all Syndicalist unions in the world in an effort to get International action on any question that affects the world. A system of interchange of cards is proposed and a convention of marine transport workers projected to formulate plans for an International Marine Transport Workers' Union. The General Executive Board endorsed a plan of a general strike to free all classes of war prisoners. This is stated to be the first attempt to bring the Syndicalist or Industrial Unionist organisations of the world together.

Not in the "White Paper."

More truth from Ernest Moulin, late "Daily Herald" correspondent in Moscow:-

What was daily life like a few months ago in Moscow, this city of massacre, rapine, robbory and disorder, and in Petrograd only a

few weeks ago?

Let us take a detail or two. To begin with, nearly all the theatres in Moscow were open and playing to crowded houses. It is a matter of taste, of course, but I should say that the repertoire this last winter in Moscow would have compared very favourably from the point of view of quality with the list of plays now running in London. And remember that very nearly all the theatres were run by the Soviets. Yet I will remind you that actors, opera singers and musicians are quite obviously of the "bourgeois" and intellectual class, who, I have learnt since my arrival in England, had all been exterminated or driven out, and could never find a place in the Bolshevik order! (Incidentally, Chaliapin has been converted to Bolshevism.),

This accusation of disorder, by the way, is one thing which would particularly astonish anyone familiar with the life of the last year or two in most of the larger cities of Bolshevik Russia. For one of the outstanding characteristics of the Bolshevik regime has been the severity with which robbery and disorder of all kinds have been suppressed. What have bothered us are the almost Prussian-like regulations for the purpose of maintaining complete order., I do not hesitate to say that, on the whole, we have been freer from robbery and personal violence under the Bolsheviks than we have been under any regime since and including the Tsarist. Kerensky's rule was immeasurably more disderly than that of the Bolsheviks.

Anyone who knew Russia in the old days. well knew the sort of terror in which those of anti-governmental opinions lived. I do not hesitate to say that there is less of this sort of espionage--much less--under Bolshevism

than there was under Tsarism.

In Russia I was a very energetic critic of the Bolshevik Government, and I have not hesitated in trains and other public places to enter into discussions with any stranger and condent certain features of the Bolshevik regime most unreservedly and most publicly, yet I never suffered in any way for my freedom of speech.

Eugene Debs, while on bail last January,

addressed a meeting at Toledo.

After acknowledging that he was "a Bolshevik from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet," he protested against the Postmaster-General's action in barring from the mails literature written by Nikolai Lenin, whom Debs termed "the greatest of European statesmen."

"I got my ten years," he said, "for telling them they would rather have the Kaiser than see the working class rule." But after all, he consoled himself, "they murdered

Lincoln: I only got ten years."

"I'm not in the least concerned about what those hewigged, begowned and bepowdered corporation attorneys at Washington decide in my case," he said to an interviewer "The predecessors of the same body affirmed the validity of the fugitive slave law sixty years ago, with the belief that their decision was final and that chattel slavery as a result would be perpetual. Within five years from that date chattel slavery was dead on American soil.

"It is worthy of note that under the law entitled the 'Espionage Act,' designed for the purpose of preventing and punishing spying in the U.S., there was not a single spy

indicted or convicted."

Debs was finally sent to prison on April 14.

"Kill the landlords" said a recent "Sunday Times." Why isn't the editor prosecuted for incitement to violence and murder? He would be if he really were a menace to landfordism. But bless you, they don't mind him.

Constant readers will miss J.M.G.'s accustomed articles. Our valued contributor is laid upwith an attack of influenza, from which, for interested as well as sympathetic reasons, we wish him a speedy recovery.

'Intolerance.'

Russian working people seem (says the "Cleveland Citizen") to be going to hell fast enough; which hell appears to consist of a tur-r-ible condition of less work and more pay and less worry and more enjoyment on this sorry old sphere. This much we gather from an interview that was given out a few days ago in New York City by Thomas H. Anderson, who has just arrived from Russia, where he has acted for three years as representative for the American Harvester Trust.

" A spirit of intolerange has overtaken the people," complains Mr. Anderson. "Under the old regime they were compelled to work long hours for little money; under the new regime established by themselves, they do only a minimum of work and at a salary which was unheard of under the old system."

In the good old days it was the custom to drive the workers to toil 10, 12, 15 hours a day. And this seems to be changed.

"For instance," says Anderson, "an official decree in Moscow prevents any workman from putting in more than six hours a day at his factory. If the plant opens at nine o'clock in the morning, it must close at three o'clock in the afternoon. A guard inspects the place at 3.10 o'clock, and everyone must be out of the building. Anyone not outside is subject to a heavy fine."

Formerly they were fined for not working; now they are fined if they work too long. But

liston to this ale of wee:

"The workmen also set their own wages. Under the old system a workman made from one to two roubles a days He is now getting anywhere from 20 to 30 roubles a day: Of course, the value of the rouble, as a medium of exchange; has decreased considerably, but, even considering this depreciation, the workman is making money at an unheard-of rate."

"There are as many automobiles in the streets of Moscow as before the revolution, but they are no longer driven by the nobility. You now see the workmen driving down the streets in the most expensive limousines."

"INCREASE PRODUCTION."

At the Trade Union Conference the Secretary of the S.A.I.F. stated that increased production of wealth must precede any attempt at a more equitable system of distribution. In short--work harder and if necessary longer hours. One wonders whether the notice which has lately been handed to each individual worker in the Robinson Deep G.M. shops took its origin from Mr. Crawford's remarks. The notice is a personal one to each worker and invites him to consider himself, his dependents and the returned soldiers and double his output in order to avoid a serious economic crisis on the mine. At the same time one hears of men working as many as 41 hours overtime in one week. One wonders whether they could double their output. How longer hours of work, and increased output per man is going to find work for the returned soldier is not made clear by the manager of the Robinson Deep who has ventured into the realm of economics.

RUSSIA'S FOREIGN COMMERCIAL POLICY.—(From "Avanti.")

Formerly the export of cereals was not the outcome of superabundance, depended solely upon the fiscal policy of the State. Indeed all this export was not determined by our wealth in natural treasures, but by our poverty.

In the future, the foreign commerce of Russia ought to be guided by precisely opposite aims, by an endeavour to restrict the export of foodstuffs and raw materials, and by an attempt to increase the import of industrial products (means of production) in order to render possible the reorganisation of our economic life.

In payment for implements of production imported into Russia, it might be possible to give concessions in certain regions, on condition that the Socialist laws remain obligatory upon the concessionaries, and that the Government retains the right to participate in the exploitation.

Labour No.es

(Reprinted, without comment, from recent

issues of the Capitalist Press.)

Volksrust: A gircular was distributed in town demanding on the part of the natives an increase of 30s, a month in wages. This was followed by a mass meeting of natives on the Market Square calling upon employers to give the advance named. The same evening a meeting of European employers hurriedly cailed in the Municipal Chambers unanimously resolved: "Inis mass meeting resolves to take no notice of the printed cirenlar from the Native Congress and to stand together and defr the warning from the natives. We ask the authorities to keep the natives in their place with firmness and justice and to seek out the agitators and if possible get rid of them."

Burnside Colliery: The agitation is based solely on the desire among natives for increased pay. The authorities anticipated matters, and a S.A.M.R. detachment with machine guns was hurried to the scene and the threatened general strike collapsed, 36 of the ringleaders being arrested, the remaining strikers agreeing to accept the advanced pay

proffered by the company.

Withank: The natives at Tweefontein Colliery struck work. The cause of refusal is a demand for more money. They say that on May 1st the white employees struck work for more money and got it, and that when the white employees were not working on 1st May the natives went to work, and they allege they did better work than when the white men were at work, and therefore did not see why they should not get the same wages as white men. The police force is at the Colliery. The manager and compound manager have pointed out to them that if they do not resume work severe measures will have to be taken.

- Messina: Rollowing on a strike of white miners at the Messina Mine on May Day the native employees ceased work. They wanted an all round increase of 1s. a day. The natives considered their action quite legitimate following the example of the white employees. The magistrate said the management was not prepared to grant the demand: he was certain that on the whole they were all well treated as to wages, food and housing. If they could not get an increase they could leave. A deputation from the local branch of the Mine Workers' Union later waited on the magistrate to disclaim responsibility or having caused the native strike, which ...er attriffuted to agitators, but the magistrate said it was their fault for coming out on May Day. (This latter remark has, it seems, veen denied.)

Silverton Slavery.

Mr. C. Maggs, the proprietor of Silverton Tannere has, we are informed, ordered his empliyees to coase holding meetings of their union on his property. Most of them live in houses owned by this patriotic lover of freedom and self determination and he threatens to arrest anyone attending such meetings. By what authority he does not say nor under what law. Of course he hopes to bluff them in their infant stages of organisation. He further informs them graciously that he will permit der de nem a siek banefit society to which do will combine provided his works manager is in charge of it. How noble, how generals. Hurrali for Liberty, the Hun is erushed.

Are the big unions and federations in Prestoria and elsewhere going to stand by and let the outper of the working class ormy go down! Soften they have done little to help them in their isnely struggle forsooth because some of the members are coloured. The I.S.L. has helped these sweated and struggling toilers, men and wannen, financially and otherwise as their wages are so miserable that they cannot build up a fund against emergencies. A word from the Federation would stop this tyranny, this brutal repres-Fion of men and women all South African horn. Will the Eederation speak it? We await the answer, it must be given quickly to be effective.

W.H.A.

Dem cract and Democracy.

"In bourgoois republican countries, under the cloak of universal suffrage, the power is found to be entirely in the hands of the great forces of capitalism. In the capitalist republie the position of the State improves as the activities of the masses are restricted, for the interests of the masses are in conflict with the capitalist state. The Soviet Republic, which involves the dictatorship of the masses, could not subsist for a single instant without their support. On the contrary its strength grows as the masses become more conscious, and as they become more active in every direction; in the factory and the workshop, and in every town and village." (Bukharin, Russian People's Commissary.) That is why the "Peace Conference" is so dead against the Soviets and so keen on what it calls "democratic" assemblies. That is also the reason for the opposition to that I.L.P. resolution in favour of such sham "democracy" at which the "Star" professes such surprise; as if that resolution had not been already exposed at the time as a covert condemnation of the real Democracy now offered to the morld.

I. S. L. Marching Sng.

(Published by the Industrial Socialist League of S.A., Cape Town.)

(To the tune of the "Warshavyanka.") Long have we laboured in darkness and sorrow.

Robbed of the bread of our toil and our SWG8::

Dare we to strive for a brighter to-morrow? What though our path be with perils beset!

Chorus.

So march on, O comrades, march till the day break;

Red glows the Flag of Revolt in the dawn! So march on, O comrades, march till the day

Red glows the Flag of Revolt in the dawn!

See in the East how the cloud-wrack is break-

Comrades, arise! for the morn is at hand. Souls that here slept in oppression are waking,

Daylight is dawning in every land! Chorus -- So march on, etc.

Rouse in your souls all the passion that slumbers,

Gulled by the guile of the princelings of

numbers The leeches of Mammon to loosen their hold.

Charas-So insieli on, etc.

Muster vem millions, ve drudges and moders!

Straighten vour backs, O'verslaves of the

March in your might to the spoil of your

Enter your kingdom, O Children of toil! Charas- Somarch on, etc.

OUT-HOINING THE HUN.

At Brest Latovsk the Germans started negotiations with the Soviets by accepting the formula "Peace without annexations or indemnities" and then proceeded to apply it by enforcing naked annexations and indemnities. What happens at Paris? The Germans laid -down their arms on the understanding that peace would be based on Wilson's Fourteen Points. Germany has no sooner surrendered than the Allies demand both reparation and indemnities and proceed to annex the German Colonies and Turkish Territory, and to divide the spoil without so much as going through the form of negotiations with their encinies. While talking of a League of Nations, they form an alliance among themselves... America serverishly builds a huge navy, and Great Britain organises a conscript army at a cost of 440 millions a year.—From "The Call."

texuc Nexts

FREE SPEECH DEFENCE FUND.

Already acknowledged, £49 17s. 9d. List 501, 29s. List 226: 67s. List 85, 48s. FG, 20s.; RG, 10s. List 330: WGS, 40s.; CC, 10s.; B. Port Elizabeth, 5s. List 430: IF, 20s.; BE, 10s. List 424: JD, 10s.

10,000 Shilling Fund. -- The Committee charged with the management of this fund have books of 1s. stamps which can be obtained at the Office. It is considered necessary that the League should own it's own printing plant and money is urgently needed for the purpose. The stamps constitute a convenient method of raising the funds but at the same time any sympathiser who is willing to donate larger amounts or supply money on loan is invited to communicate with the secretary at the Office of the League when he will be supplied with all necessary information.

Comrades are urged to take parcels of the "International" C.O.D. to sell at any conrenient place and time. Having temporarily stepped our open air public meetings it is all the more essential that the literature should be distributed and the workers reached by that means. There are a number of copies of "Secialism Made Easy" by James Connolly in steck, price 7d. post free. Send

your orders

BENONI BRANCH.

The Branch will meet in the Municipal Council Chamber on June 12th, at 8 p.m. All comrades in the district are urged to attend

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH. New Secretary, R. Sandler. Box 2202, Jo hannesburg.

JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

A public meeting will be held in the Selborne Hall on Thursday, 12th inst., at 8 p.m. Chairman, S. P. Bunting. Speeches on Liberty by W. H. Andrews and C. B. Tyler. Collection to defray expenses. All are invited to ask questions after the speeches.

Study Class.—The first anniversary of this successful phase of the Branch's work was colchrated last Friday. An attempt is being made to reorganise the class along lines more suitable to present needs and League members are urged to attend a meeting called for Friday next, June 13, in Neppe's Build. ings, at 8-p.m. to assist in reorganisation.

PRETORIA BRANCH.

The Branch now meets on the first and third Monday in each month in the Federation Hall, at 8 p.m. The first Monday is a business meeting, and the third educational.

Readers will have noticed of late how large-Press with the power and pride of your, buy we have quoted the "Workers' Dreadnought," the weekly organ of the Workers' Socialist Federation, London, edited by Sylvia Pankhurst. We have done so because it is cheke-iull el u-siul ir ismarion on various phases of the movement, and is edited by a theroughgoing revelucionary. In future we shall be able from time to time to refer Johannesburg readers to that paper itself, forit is being stecked by Chicken's News Agency. Principal Street, and should be taken by every Socialist.

> The Butcher's and General Dealer's Business carried on at Stand 1467. Primrose Town-Ship by INTERNATIONAL CASH BUTCH-ERY (Elias Prag) has been joined by SOLO-MON SCHRODER as parener of the said ELAAS PRAG, as from 21st May, 1919.

> This paper will be posted for four weeks only (a) to subscribers whose subscriptions have expired. from date of expi.: (h) to persons recommended as likely subscribors.

> To ensure receipt of paper therester Postal Order for is.; laing one year's subscription post free, must be sent during the four weeks to the "International," Box 4179 Johannesburg.

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