THE INTERNATIONAL

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

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PRICE 1d. WEEKLY,

Be a "Booster."

Success, in this vale of tears, deserves success: a doubled circulation in six months deserves to be again doubled in half that time. Do you believe in the work the "International" is doing? Then help, to multiply that good work, and so rapidly that what now seems success will soon appear failure in comparison. Order a bundle each week for distribution, and remit cash with order to cover a stated number of weeks. Post or give s copy to your friends. Get local newsagents to stock it. Get new subscribers. This is the best way to increase the circulation and ad vance the cause of Socialism in South Africa. Members have been heard to say there is no work for them to do. Here is the best possible work ready to their hand. Keep the snowball rolling. Let every subscriber do his bit to-day.

Another Week of Capitalism.

SMOKE SCREENS.

The censored press has become expert at sirculating "intelligence" which must be mean. ingless not merely to the man in the street but even to the "loyal" middle class no less than to the class conscious workers. What are we to make of the daily contradiction between the declarations of "statesmen" that intervention in Russia is not contemplated and the actual reports of the exploits of Briirsh bluejackets, tanks, aeroplanes, poison gas purveyors, etc., against the Bolsheviks? Or again, on the same day, the capture of Petrograd is imminent and of Moscow only a matter of weeks according to the cables, while the leading articles, and even Ministers in Parliament, tell us "what a hope." What are the Serbians attacking the Austrians for? Why are Germans fighting Esthonians or blowing up bridges down Poland way? What is the Hungarian peasants' trouble with the Soviets? In short, why do the heathen rage, and the wicked imagine a vain thing? We do not profess to unravel the tangle of news?' But we can be sure of one thing: that the single aim of capitalist governments—their lies and their campaigns -all over the world to-day is simply to resist the march of "Bolshevism"; even Churchill's minimising speech is probably only just put about to divert the publie from protesting. Beware of false prophets, optimists or pessimists :let us not relax for one moment the utmost effort appropriate to whalt, despite the mists spread by the newsmongers, is the most desperate struggle in history. Attack after attack must be hurled at one vulnerable point after another in the fortress of capitalism: that is the proper way to take strongholds. Our business is simply to get on with it till the final breach re stormed.

BLACK HUNDREDS GROW WINGS.

When even policemen turn "rebels" it is time for Capital to look out. The attempt to turn the police in London into a standing army to fight civilians, and to use them in Canada to combat strikes, has resulted in another big accession to the ranks of the class-conscious workers, and one unprecedented, we believe, in the history of modern labour: nor can much reliance be placed by their masters on their replacement by returned soldiers, who have notoriously been sut of touch for the last several years with prevailing currents in the "Labour world."

but who are not likely to form a permanently trustworthy force for the defence of the old order: indeed their conversion will be more rapid than that of the police themselves. Moreover, as in Leeds, the special constable business tends to become a mere enrolment of middle-class supporters of the bourgeoisie; and although, as Tolstoi remarked, the capitalist system has to surround itself with an increasing bodyguard of satellites, yet a capitalist class that has to fight its own battles without working men to do its fighting may be considered to be pretty nearly on its last legs.

THE LABOUR "LEADER" AGAIN.

Big headlines proclaimed a vulgan speech by Havelock Wilson, a man discredited in England even in the orthodox Labour Pauty, criticising the recent resolutions of the "Triple Alliance" against the blockade, the Russian campaign, and the Conscription Act. The capitalists, said this their champion, were afraid to develop industry because of the absence of any guarantee of the futured Welcome admission! He and his friends got soundly beaten in their attempt to censure the Alliance (no headlines about that, you will observe) and consoled themselves with an instruction to the Transport Federation Executive not to commit the affiliated unions to strike action without a ballot. Does Mr. Wilson hold a ballot of his own pocket Sailors' and Firemen's Union before he commits them to leading munitions for Russia? Or is it not a fact that that Union never really meets or acts as a whole because sailors, from the nature of their calling, cannot attend their branch meetings and so perforce leave everything to the officials—the sort of Union beloved by Governments?

INSPECTOR OF CAPITAL.

"The Silverton tannery;" reports the Pretoria Inspector of White Labour, "is producing a fairly good article, and there is every hope that the work will be extended shortly." What has that got to do with him? As Inspector of White Labour, has he no remark to offer, not on the chances of capital, but on the conditions of labour there, about which the "International" has had something to say recently? Is this post just another stunt like the Native Affairs Department, posing as a protector of the workers, but really playing tout and spy for the boss? Meanwhile the best that the Durban White Labour Bureau can report is that it has on its books a large number of men "unemployable in Durhan," "totally unadaptable to town life," with a prospect of increased unemployment and no immediate relief!

CONSPÜEZ JOINT BOARDS.

No truck with conferences between Capital and Labour is the decision of the Witwaters-rand Tailors' and Tailoresses' Association in reply to the invitation to send delegates to the Government's projected powwow. Indeed, even the Joint Board in that trade is losing favour among working tailors, especially since it was pointed out that the Board is a secret body with a fine of £5 10s. leviable on any of its members daring to disclose any of its proceedings to the bodies, such as the Union, which he is supposed to represent on the Board!

POGROMS IN ENGLAND.

The anti-negro riots in Liverpool and South Wales only confirm what the "International" has often pointed out—that the "native question," being really the world's cheap labour question, is not confined to South Africa, and cannot be solved if it is viewed only as it presents itself in this

country. It is a world question, but appears in bolder relief here than elsewhere, which qualifies this country to be the pioneer in solving it. Now that negro or Asiatic lab our has become so recognised a part of the proletariat of England as to have its own locations in English we must look for the same misleading of English as of South white workers on the subject; and for once South; Africa must teach England the error of its ways.. Capitalist influences, listened to all too readily by men taught in schools and press that they are a boss race, and that only the British £ sterling is accepted everywhere, easily lead them to attack their fellow workers instead of attacking those who introduced them to bring the wages bill down. It is not the nigger's fault that he is brought to English towns and loses his head. If there must be pogroms on the subject, smell out the employers—and see that they don't interfere with your sisters either!

UNRIPE FOR LIBERTY.

The natives, say our exploiters with their usual disinterested philanthropy, are not yet ripe for trade unionism. But from the Congo we hear the same of the whites: and no doubt it is added there too that a Labour movement among them infallibly means violence, disaffection, subversion of the Constitution, and anarchy. Not ripe for unionism, indeed? Did Heaven decree that men must be born slaves and serve a probation, pass an educational test, and earn an artisan's wage before qualifying for liberty? Or is he that is good enough to be a worker good enough to become a free worker?

The alien question always comes to the fore when there is a slump in trade and there are not enough jobs to go around. It is a cowardly attempt on the part of the master class to avert the eyes of the labouring masses from the real cauese of the existing brutal and unscientific conditions.—"The Spur."

M. O. Abbassi, an Indian, contributes to the "Workers Dreadnought" an apostrophe to the "League of Nations," from which we take the following:—

I fail to see any mention in your plan of the down-trodden, struggling races of the East, those unfortunate victims of white exploits, who lost liberty, wealth, and all to pamper the greed and proud amibition of Imperialists. Have you forgotten they exist? Would you close the doors of Freedom against them? Would you keep them grovelling in thraldom and misery, and label them out for ever "Un-free"? Or would you, in justification of your aims, with even-handed justice and magnanimity, restore to them their natural birthright of self-determination?

Would you liberate Egypt, would you liberate India? Would you unshackle the unfortunate Persia? Would you uplift the teeming millions of Africa? Human they are all, one God's creatures. Would you give them a place on this God's earth? Would you, like genuine brethren and saviours of mankind, help uplift them to culture and progress, or would it harrow your soul to let go those vast rich fields of exploitations? This is "an acid test of your sincerity."

Let it not be said, then, that the superior races of whites combined to plunder and exploit the backward blacks of half the world in the name of goodwill and peace on earth!

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The New Hungary.

An important account of the new system of Government in Hungary appears in "Humanite," of April 2nd. There are to be urban and rural councils, elected by all workers over 18 years of age, covering the whole country. These councils will elect delegates to district and county councils, which in turn will elect delegates to the National Assembly of Councils, the supreme organ of Government.

The system is like the Russian Soviet system in its general plan, but the representation is aparently to be territorial, not industrial. It is interesting to note that foreigners resident in Hungary will have the vote provided that they are doing work that is useful to the community.

LAND POLICY.

H. N. Brailsford, the "Daily Herald" special correspondent in Hungary, wrote on April 14:—

The four months after Armistice under the Gogernment of Karolyi was here as in most parts of Hungary a period of anarchy. Order, as usual, came with the revolution. The plan for breaking up the great estates into small holdings was fortunately not carried out. Some weeks before the revolution the local Socialists persuaded the labourers that the maintenance of the big estates was in their interest; it was better to socialise them than to divide the land. It was pointed out that. they could not divide steam ploughs or model cattle sheds.

The largest estates were actually socialised before the revolution, against the wishes of the whole Karolyi administration. In the three weeks since the revolution socialisation has been complete on all estates over 200 acres. The labourers on each estate elect their own council with a responsible executive of three members. A steward with power of eveto is nominated by the central

county authority.

Towards the small villages and small-holdings, the policy of the revolution is to leave things undisturbed. The small owners are intensely conservative, and no interference with them is contemplated. The great estates will be used as schools, which will spread the new ideas. Villagers of this type will be socialised only when they themselves invite it. Enquiries show that the small owners will not oppose the new regime while they are left alone.

I believe the whole of Hungary can feel no doubt of the stability of the new order, which combines great firmness and considerable

political tact.

EDUCATION.

At Budapest, under the Soviet Government, according to a Reuter message, a Workers' University has been opened. It is not a University for the sons of wealthy people and the Soviet Government is applying the principles of maintenance for those students taking certain courses of These students will be relieved of all productive work, and will receive during their period of training pay according to the wages they receive while at work. The rule applies principally to those taking a course of administration at the university. In this the Soviet Government is acting wisely: for the chief difficulty they have encountered is to find a sufficient number of civil administrators, sympathetic to the revolution, to take the place of the bureaucrats whom the revolution has evicted.

HOUSING.

The Hungarian Soviet has applied the best. immediate sclution of the housing question by decreeing that no adult is to occurv more than one room. In consequence of that decision for the last few weeks more than 300,000 poor have been lodged in the mansions of the aristocracy and the villas of the rich bourgeoisie.

DAY-LIE "INTELLIGENCE."

On April 17 the Roumanian Press Bureau issued a statement that a Red Terror had begun at Budapest, and that Dr. Wekerle and other ex-Ministers had been murdered in prison. This was published in the "Times" of April 21.

On April 21 the "Daily News" published . wire from its Budapest correspondent stating that in consequence of the report he had gone to the prison on April 18, and there seen Wekerle and the other ex-Ministers, who were reported on the 17th to have been murdered, in good health, and with "no complaints" against their treatment. .

league Noies.

FREE SPEECH DEFENCE FUND.

Already acknowledged, £84 2s. 9d. List 72: SP, 2s. 6d.; HG, 2s. 6d.; NS, 3s. 6d.; JS, 2s. 6d.; LS, 2s. 6d.; JM, 2s. 6d.; DD, 2s. 6d.; AK, 2s. 6d.; BM, 2s. 6d.; DM, 2s. 6d.; ML, 2s.; PC, 2s. List 335: JR, 5s.; LJS, 5s.; BL, 5s.; JA, 5s.; AG, 2s. List 522 used at public meeting: TRWM, 20s.; PH, 7s. "Gd.; JS, 4s.; TS, 1s.; RG, 1s.; NG, 5s.; AG, 5s.; IL, 1s.; CH, 2s. 6d.; DD, 2s.; SS, 1s.; various 44s. 6d.; JR, 17s. List 61: AJD, 5s.; Mac, 2s. 6d.; GS, 2s.; MK, 2s.; Dutchman, 2s.; RF., 2s. 6d.; CFD, 2s.; PF, 2s.; JB, 2s.; JBR, 2s.; AB, 2s.; Trade Unionist, 2s.; WYDV, 2s. List 24: CM, 2s. 6d.; HN, 1s.; TWF, 1s.; JM, 1s.; CP, 2s. 6d.; SC, 2s. 6d.; DG, 2s. 6d.; A., 2s. 6d.; AD, 5s. List 62: 20s.; JW, 5s. Natal List No. 3: TR, 20s.; CVG, 20s. List 70: 5s. JR, 6s.

10,000 Shilling Fund. — The Committee charged with the management of this func have books of 'ls. stamps which can be obtained at the Office. It is considered neces sary that the League should own its 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 convenient place and time. Having temporarily stopped our open air public meetings it is all the more essential that the literature should be distributed and the workers reached by that means.

The following pamphlets can now be obtained at the head office, C.W.O .:-· Evolution of Industry, 6d., by, McLaine. Trades Unionism at the Cross Roads, 3d., by

McLaine.

Socalism and the Survival of the Fittest, 3d. by J. Connell.

Truth about Russia, 6d., by A. Ransome. The War after the War, 4d., by J. McLean. Wage-Labour and Capital, 6d., by Marx. Burning Question of Trades Unionism, 4d., by

Reform or Revolution, 4d., by De Leon. Socialism Made Easy, 6d., by Connolly. Value, Price and Profit, 9d., by Marx. Through Dictatorship to Democracy, 6d., by

Klara Zetkin. The Workers' Revolution in Russia, Dutch and English, 6d.

Postage, 1d. extra.

I.S.L. KIMBERLEY BRANCH.

This branch held its first meeting on the 10th inst., and helds its next meeting on June 24th and every second and fourth Tuesday in the month thereafter. We wish the new branch a long and successful career.

JOHANNESDURG BRANCH.

All comrades are urgently requested to attend the re-organisation meeting of the Study Class (which was unavoidably postponed last week) at Neppe's Buildings, on Thursday, June 26th, at 8 p.m. The Revolution is only being brought about by propaganda. Are we going to take a back seat just through lack of speakers? Rally, comrades, the times demand sterner stuff than picture shows!

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH SOCIAL.

A literary and musical evening will be held on Wednesday, July 9th, at Professor West's Academv. Tickets, 1s. each (refreshments provided), can be obtained at the Head Office or from any member of the branch.

The P. W. and M. Bill.

The mass meeting of protest at the Durban Town Hall last Friday, under the chairmanship of the Mayor, carried unanimously the resolutions set forth in our last issue, which had also been taken over by the I.S.L. at the Selborne Hall meeting the night before. It was essentially a Labour meeting, but not a Labour party meeting; the Durban Federation and industrialist promoters are of a new generation which knows not the S.A.L.P. Joseph. The speakers were R. Goodenough, a returned soldier and chairman of the Federation, who said "we had four years of promises from recruiting committees at the Town Hall steps, and now we are going to got six months!"; Mr. Reyburn, chairman of the Municipal Employees' Society; H. W. Haynes, a star speaker in Durban, they say, who asked if the "Bolsheviks," i.e., the oppressed, were responsible for the misery they voiced; A. L. Clark, President of the National Union of Railway and Harbour Servants; J. Dickens, and McLean. The organist wound up with the National Anthem, but the meeting, which seemed to know where to put its patriotism, closed with the unaccompanied "Red Flag."

A capital protest meeting was also held last Sunday night at the Apollo Theatre, Germiston, when speeches were delivered by Messrs. W. Moore (N.U.R. and H.S.), Chamhers (secretary, Telephone and Telegraph Asscciation), George, Sergt. Dalrymple, Tedstone, Eaves and Kentridge. The Bill is doing much to bring together the various elements in different labour camps who have an inkling of what is afoot in the world. Mr. Moore's efforts in this direction deserve every support. And the power of united Labour is once more illustrated by the fact that a couple of working class growls have been enough to compel the dropping of the remaining objectionable clauses of the Bill. Then what is impossible for a united proletarian bark—or bite?

Now that th't Bill is scotched, we ask again, what is this preaching of "violence" or "disaffection" so recklessly charged against us? Let them come out with it—if they are not satisfied with their past fiascoes in that regard. They dare not, and cannot—nor even under the protection of Parliamentary privilege.

It will be noted that the lamented Public Welfare Bill does not make it an offence... to stir up "disaffection" among Europeans against natives—which is being done every day in both England and South Africa; but ! only among natives against Europeans, which, by the way, is also being done all the time, not by the Sccialists, but by the European*

What can be clearer than that the whole fabrication just cloaks a campaign against, not merely any movement for native working class emancipation, but anything-calculated to make the labour force a whit less cheap or less servile, notwithstanding all the rise in cost of living, all the natural ambition of the "lower classes," and all the provocative and repressive legislation and administration which admittedly accounts for most of our "labour unrest"?

The Board of Education in Washington has forbidden the teachers who deal in current events in the City High School to discuss:-

(1) Bolshevism.

in question.

(2) The League of Nations.

(3) "Other Heresies." The President of the Board of Education in Washington is Mr. George E. Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton is also the President of the Capital Trustees Company. : . . .

According to a report laid before the Board of Education of New York City, the Teachers' Union denounces this body as tyrants and oppressors who desire to suppress the right of both teachers and pupils.

The reason for this denunciation, is then the Board has recently instructed its superintendent to institute an immediate and exhaustive investigation into the life, afficientions opinions and lovalty of every member of the Teachers' Union.

A Prelude to the French Strikes.

(From the "Workers' Dreadnought.")

Our French comrades organised in Paris wonderful May Day demonstration which was strended by millions of people, who, in spite of the pouring rain, assembled with happy faces and wearing wild roses to celebrate the festival of the workers. No newspapers appeared except "The Voice of the People," the official hulletin of the General Confederation of Labour. No letters were delivered, trams and buses ceased to run and those of the railways which did not stop altogether stopped part of the day. The vast majority of Paris workers ceased work for 24 hours.

But the Government had banned the pro-

cession.

"L'Humanite" reports that soldiers and armed police were drawn up across numbers of streets to bar its passage and to break it up. On the whole the soldiers were sympathetic to the workers, and in very few cases used violence. When ordered to fix bayonets they did so, but put them up again. The demonstrators hailed them with cries of: "You are with us, soldiers! We are brothers!" and the women offered them flowers. The soldiers responded with friendly gestures, and the workers and soldiers fraternised.

The police, on the contrary, were most brutal, using their swords and truncheons. and trampling women and children under foot. At the corner of the Rue Saint Honore and Rue Royale the fire brigade turned the hose on the crowd. At the corner of the Place de l'Opera the demonstrators were met by a strong cordon of police. The crowd was calm; there was neither singing, nor shouting. Suddenly the police charged. Some few women who were attacked fell to the ground. They, were abominably trampled under foot. A shot was fired. A man fell. / Several witnesses of this murderous attack stated that the the shot was fired by a police agent dressed as a hourgeois. In the Rue Lafitte a charge by the Dragoons also caused some casualties. But here and elsewhere the attitude of the infantry was calm, almost indifferent; they had grounded their arms.

A pregnant woman was kicked in the stomach by a policeman. Poncet, the Socialist
Deputy of Vincennes, intervened, but shortly
afterwards a policeman struck him with great
violence and it is a wonder that he was not
skilled. Near the Gare de l'Est a number
of American soldiers mixed with the crowd,
showing a sympathetic curiosity. Suddenly,
some shots were fired. Again the police had
ased their revolvers. An American soldier
fell, covering his neighbour with blood.

Jouhaux, Secretary of the C.G.T., attempting to intervene on behalf of the women, was attacked by the police and wounded over the eye. Perrot, Secretary of the Union des Syndicats, wishing to avoid any disorder, asked for permission for the crowd to pass. the cordon and go to the Place de la Republique. His request was granted, but the crowd had scarcely begun to pass, when the police with drawn swords and the mounted Municipal Guards charged upon them. Charles Lecat, member of the Executive of Syndicat du Bronze, states that he and his wife were pushed on to the pavement by the Republican Guards, one of whom cried out "Arrest him, he is armed!" His wife protested that he was not armed. At that moment, a policeman tried to slip a revolver into his pocket, but did not succeed. He protested and was allowed to pass, but his wife received a sword cut on the head. At the same time two revolver shots were fired and two young men fell—one of them died on the way to the hospital.

The London "Times" Paris correspondent admits that "the police behaved with great violence, and, to the onlooker, with unnecessary brutality."

There are in England 350,000 orphan children of soldiers who have died in the war. One-fourth of them are in the workhouses or other institutions in the charge of the "guardians" of the poor.

How to Fight the Bolsheviks.

M. Bloch's famous notion a decade or two back that war was too deadly for any nation to attempt it was discredited by subsequent facts, and the idea is laughed at to-day.

The Brisbane "Patriot" recently published an article, stated to be by a first-hand observer, on the Allies use of poison gas.

According to this article one ton of gas exploded from above can be made to account for perhaps an acre or more of territory, and not one living thing, not even a rat, would live through it.

The American factory near Baltimore had reached in the last months of the war an average output capacity of 200 tons per day. The work at the factory was very deadly, the casualty roll being 100 per cent. per month. Only conscripts could be got to work there.

When the Germans first used the gas, in April, 1915, they were so afraid of it that although it actually dissipated within 35 or 40 minutes after its release, and in that time annihilated 80 per cent. of the Canadians, Turcos and French opposing 11, they waited 24 hours before following it up with a bayonet attack. If they had attacked within an hour they would have taken Calais that day.

The French would not consent to a whole; sale gas attack by air until the Allied line was so far advanced that there was no chance of the gas being blown back into French territory and until the Allied command was in such complete control in the air as to ensure safety from possible reprisals. These two conditions could not have been met until the spring of 1919, when "we could have wiped out any German city within a few hours of giving the release signal."

At Baltimore there is enough gas, if properly liberated, to kill every human being on both the American continents. The machinery is now being carefully taken apart, oiled and wrapped and stored away, together with the latest formulae. Out of the £14,400,000 expenditure there is a little 15-ton consignment of brombenzyleyanide. This is an intense-tear-compeller, which blinds people for 6 or 8 hours. It has been suggested that this might be kept in every police station throughout the country in little cans with spraying nozzles, for use against mobs. "It might be a sort of permanent insurance against any American eruption of the Bolsheviks." otherwise the "rabble," or workers.

The Werkers Challenge.

(By Rudyard Kipling.)

We have fed you all for a thousand years and you hail us yet unfed.

There is not a dollar of all your wealth but marks the workers' dead.

We have yielded our best to give you rest;
you lie on crimson wool.

If blood be the price of all your wealth, good God, we have paid in full.

There is not a mine blown skyward now but

we are buried for you, There is not a wreck drifts shore-ward now

but we are its ghastly crew.

Go reckon our dead by the forges red, and factories where we spin;

If blood be the price of your boasted wealth, good God, we have paid it in.

We have fed you all for a thousand years, but that was our doom, you know;

From the time you chained us in the fields, to the strike of a week ago.

You have eaten our lives, our babies and wives, but that was your legal share, But if blood be the price of your legal wealth, good God, we have bought it fair.

"Religion-freedom-vengeance - what you will,

A word's enough to raise mankind to kill; Some factious phrase by cunning caught and spread,

That Guilt may reign, and wolves and worms be fed."—Byron.

C.I.D. Notes.

A fragment of a police report to Minister de Wet of a secret I.S.L. meeting has fallen into our hands.

After a collect to St. Lenin and St. Trotz-ky (it reads) the chairman reminded the members that it was a strict rule of the League to eat a bourgeois three times a day before meals (ter die sumendum ante cibos was his incantation in the Bolshevik language). Five new members having complied with the rule were then sworn in, looking.

very bloated.

The Treasurer announced that he had just received by wireless from Moscow the sum of 50 million roubles for secret propaganda, this sum having been specially diverted from Ireland, for which it had been voted, to South Africa where it was thought more blood could be shed in less time. It was decided to divide this sum among the native chiefs, as a counterbid to the larger sums at present paid them by recruiting agencies, etc.; the natives to be incited to massacre white women and children whenever the Allies did it in Europe; and the many sawage natives present were incited accordingly. Part of the fund was however retained for taxi fares, dtc., to be incurred by members of the M.C. in journeys to Parktown to mark down individual capitalists for slaughter, one for every Socialist murdered by the capitalists, or to arrest them as hostages, one for every Socialist imprisoned by the capitalists, also for bombs, poison gas, etc., to be used whenever used by the capitalist class against Bolshevik gatherings or armies.

The meeting was held in the rafters of a suburban residence, the police spies covering themselves with dust in their efforts to climb up there. Once there they found a sumptuous hall to hold hundreds, like Lucian's country inside the whale. The propaganda was thus underground. Of course it was also very, very sinister. Everyone present, including Britishers, was an alien; and every woman present was nationalised. Vodka made of blood was freely drunk throughout the pro-

ceedings.

The Reward of the Hero.

To-day, in the French army, men are made to endure rigid discipline, indifferent billets, dirty ration-bags, the mud of the camps, compulsory filth, and days in prison with hair cropped short. When they go home they find taxes to pay, a grumbling landlord, the land lying waste, no work. Whether they have or have not the "Croix de Guerre" stuck in their coat, they have bronchitis in the lungs, rheumatism in the limbs, and nerves ruined by days and nights spent at high tension.

An army of poor fellows, wounded, ill, and in pain; an army of sufferers falling from one misery to another. Humble and unknown, they formed with their own bodies the bloody rampart; they have need now to be cared for, consoled, and healed. But now, after the battle they find hunger, unemployment, and the self-satisfied smile of the "victors."

The soldier of the heroic armies, sad and broken, weeps for his youth, his lost health and vanished liberty.

-Marcelle Capy in "La Vague."

In the course of a vigorous speech at a recent Glasgow meeting denouncing Conscription, Colonel Wedgewood, M.P., said that self-seeking and spurious patriots would conceal their real designs under cover of the Union Jack. They reminded him of the story of the Liverpool schoolboy, who, when asked by his master to explain the reason for the Union Jack being hung on the wall of the classroom, replied: "To hide the dirt behind it, sir." With regard to the C.O.'s and Pacifists, he had to say that he was not a Pacifist himself; he rather fiked fighting. And it was because he liked it that he realised that the C.O.'s and Pacifists were the best of fighters. Their courage had been as great as any ever shown on the battlefield, and their condition demanded justice at once.

To British Workers.

ARE YOU A TRADE UNIONIST?

A MESSAGE (In 1818) FROM LENIN AND TCHITCHERINE.

If not, why not?

Did you find the conditions of life in field or factory so pleasant that you had no desire for any improvement? Did you find your employer so obliging, and ready to give you what you asked, that you did not it necessary to take oner measures to get what you wanted? If so, then you have been more fortunate than most workers, for that is not the usual experience.

If you are a trade unionist, do you thoroughly understand the reason of your membership of a trade union? You know that the employer does not employ you for love, you know that, if he can, he will press your wages down to the lowest level, you. know that when you are organised you are better able to get your demands accepted than when your employer has to deal with each man separately. Even so, your employers have resisted your demands, and you

have been compelled to come out on strike. You have learnt that masters are no friends

of workers.

You have learnt the need for working class discipline, and working class loyalty: for you will agree that there is no more contemptible creature than a blackleg. But being a trade unionist means much more than this. Have you ever asked yourself why it is that in spite of your organisation, in spite of your strikes, even successful strikes, your position as a worker has not improved? Even when you obtained higher wages you were not able to buy more food or clothing with them. Did you not find that prices were rising always higher than your wages? It was like chasing will-o'-the-wisp in trying to keep up with them. In spite of reductions of hours there were still plenty of unemployed. And how often have you found that with the introduction of a new machine your work has completely gone, and the trade union could do nothing to prevent it?

You see then merely to be a trade unionist is not enough. You are not merely up against the particular employer you work for, but against all employers as a class.

Your interests are not merely identical with the workers in your particular trade or industry, but with all workmen.

The Class War.

In fact you are up against the whole capitalist system. What is capitalism? Capibalism is the system under which the land, the railways, factories, and the means of obtaining a livelihood are owned by private individuals, who use them for their own benefit.

Who owns England? Do you? Can you point to any part of England and say: "This is mine"? If you can you are one of the lucky ones. There are not many working men in England who can say that. The England that you call "your country" is not your country, but the landlords'. In England women whose husbands are fighting "for their country" are being evicted from their houses. If you do not pay rent to the landlord you cannot live in "your coun-

The fremendous industry of England is not run for the purpose of providing you and your family with food and clothing. It is run for the purpose of providing profit and interest for the capitalists, financiers, and for rich shirkers generally to lead idle and luxurious lives while you slave and toil to create it.

All wealth comes from labour. Does labour get it? If it did there would be no poor people in England. The worker is robbed of the product of his labour. He is robbed by those who take the rent, profit and interest, i.e., the landlords and the capitalists. Between you and them there is an irreconcilable antagonism. As long as there are capitalists, workmen will be robbed, and continue to remain poor. Your aim as a trade unionist, desiring to improve your conditions of life, should be to abclish capitalism and landlordism, and take possession of your country. You would be doing more good

for yourself, if you conquered England for the English people.

The War and the Class War.

The productivity of labour has increased to such an extent that the capitalists have to find new markets to dispose of the surplus wealth and profits you have created. This is what this war is about. The German capitalists and the Allied capitalists are competing with each other as to who shall control the undeveloped parts of the world for the purpose of investing the profits they wrung out of the labour of their respective workers. This is why you have been brought to Russia. Your capitalists see in our country a rich field for investment. And so you have been brought here to overthrow our workers' government, and bring back the rule of the landlords, capitalists, and the Tzar. It is indeed a grim jest that the workers of Europe are slaughtering each other by the thousand for the purpose of deciding where the wealth they have been plundered of, shall go. Even during the war the class war has gone on. · At the outbreak of the war the capitalists said to you: "We must not quarrel now. We are of the same race, we must all unite and show a solid front to the enemy." The workers believed them, and gave up everything in defence of their country. But the capitalists continued in their old business of bleeding the workers. With them it was "business as usual," only more so. For the people the war has been the cause of ruin, sorrow, grief, and disaster. For the capitalists it has been an El-Dorado. They have made such profits as they have never in their lives dreamed of. Immense fortunes have been made out of the blood and tears of the working people.

It has been the same in every country. In every country the capitalists have used the workers as cannon-fodder on the battlefields, and as material for exploitation at home. The capitalist class worships no other god but profit, and owns allegiance to any country where profit can be obtained.

Does not this show that the peoples are not divided according to nationality, but according to class?

The workers of each country are not enemies to each other. Their real enemies are at home, the capitalists, who are robbing and exploiting the people, and who have set the workers against each other, in order that they may be able to fleece them the more.

The workers can only put an end to this exploitation, and mutual slaughter by overthrowing the capitalists and taking control into their own hands.

This is the logical outcome of being a trade

unionist.

Our Revolution.

We, the workers of Russia, in our fights with the capitalist have always taken this view. In October last we swept the capitalists out of power, and declared that Russia belongs to the whole of the Russian peo-

We are not going to grow food for the rich to feed, or weave cloth for the rich to wear. The people will enjoy the product of their labour.

Can you wonder that the capitalists of all countries should hate us? We have shattered their dreams of the vast fortunes to be made out of the great stores of natural wealth contained in our country.

Besides, if they allow us to remain in existence, will not the workers in other countries follow suit and do as we have done?

They have decided therefore to crush us before we have time to consolidate our position. And you, English trade unionists will be used for this purpose.

The Russian capitalists do not stand an earthly chance against us by themselves. But your capitalists know that their interests are the same as those of the Russian capitalists, and have come to their, assistance.

Why do you not recognise your class interest in the same way? You as trade unionists are fighting your capitalists, we have settled our account with ours.

What are you going to do? Are you going to undo the work we have commenced? Are you going to do the dirty work of your enemies, the capitalist class? Or will you remain loyal to your own class—the working class—and support our effort to secure the world for labour?

Rememberi

By fighting us you are not fighting for your country, but for the capitalists whom your fellow trade unionists at home ere fighting. By fighting us you are fighting your fellow workers. Every blow you strike against us is a blow against yourselves. If you crush us, you will only succeed in strengthening the power of your capitalists to rob you and exploit you.

Fellow workers, on whose side are you—the

workers' or the masters'?

N. LENIN. President Council People's Commissaries. G. TCHTCHERINE, People's Commissary for Foreign Affairs

Dockers Beware!

By Harry Pollitt in the "Workere" Dreadnought."

The first Socialist Republic in the world stands in danger of being overthrown because British trade unionists (who are compelled to be in a trade union to fight the English capitalist) are manning the engines and ships that are carrying soldiers and munitions to Russia.

Here in the London Docke, British trade unionists are working every possible Kour on barges that are being fitted out to carry bomb's, ammunition boxes, and aeroplane parts, that are going to Russia to defeat and kill Russian trade unionists. Ayel and by some ironic circumstance, as if possessed by the bloody imp of capitalist greed, these same staunch trade unionists are working at a speed (and under atmospheric conditions) that they never endured when it was thought so urgent to have ships to beat the Germans. How the gods of War and Greed thust now be smiling in fiendish delight!

Dockers, get busy in your branches and get the mombers to refuse to touch any ship that is to carry munitions to Russia. Only by such action can the British Labour Move ment ripe out the stain that now tarnishes

its ideals.

British Soldiers to Break Strikes in Germany

The proclamations of General Plumer at Cologne in reference to threatened strikes is the British occupied zone should be carefully noted.

"In accordance with the law all disputes and differences are to be brought for settlement before the existing German Courts of Arbitration. In the event of a settlement not being reached by these means, the case will be brought before the British military authorities, who, after hearing both sides with sympathy and impartiality, will make s decision which will be binding for both parties. I warn all that severe measures win he taken against any person who, in defiance of this proclamation, acts in any way contrary to these orders or subversive of their intention."

Talking of the nationalisation of women, the dirty business was already in operation in British India over 30 years ago. Under instructions from Lord Roberts, an army circular in 1886 emphasised that it was necessary "to have a sufficient number of wo men" (Indian), "to take care that they are sufficiently attractive," etc. Cantonment magistrates were urged to "give all possible aid to commanding officers in procuring sufficient number of young, attractive, and healthy women."

But then, when we Britishers do anything shady, it is nobly done, in the service of our great Empire, etc., etc.

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