THE INTERNATIONAL.

The Organ of the International Socialist League (S.A.)

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And Shall Trelawny Die.

Do you want a Socialist paper?

"The International" is the only Socialist or Labour newspaper in South Africa. It has held aloft the flag of the revolutionary workingclass for 69 weekly issues. Do you want it to continue?

The monthly deficits on the publication expenses of "The International" were guaranteed at its birth by various friends of the movement. Many of these friends undertook the financial liability evidently under the impression that "The International Socialist League" was to be just another Labour Party only different on the war question. And it seems to have come as a surprize to them that its organ "The International" was not run to expound the merely pacifist objection to war.

But those more closely responsible for its editorial and publication realized early that, as an exponent of working-class opposition to war. "The International" could not remain there, except by a not very edifying tight rope performance. They realized that it had to dig right down into the very depths of the revolutionary class struggle. They realized that our use of the term "International" was not a foreshadowing of inter-capitalist entents, but of the unity across all borders of the workingclass. And it is for this uncompromising workingclass defiance of capitalism in war and peace, and the application of that International workingclass unity right here in South Africa that our little paper has worked, and fought, and educated and agitated during its sixty-nine weekly issues.

Have we done right? The overwhelming majority of our readers undoubtedly say "Yes"! The recent Conference of the League has said yes! It has appointed an homogenous Executive resolved to carry on the same fight.

But this means that there are large defections from our guarantee list, avowedly on account of the paper's policy, which is that of the League. It is even declared that the paper cannot survive unless it alters its policy. And in the coming year, now in fact, we are compelled to look for new financial support.

The question for every ardent Socialist now is: Shall "The International" collapse is Shall it be said that the revolutionary working class of South Africa cannot keep their paper going without middle class aid?

From all sides we hear of the need for "The International." It is for you then to come along with the "dibs."

All comrades who think our movement worth a sacrifice should write to the League Treasurer, Comrade E. H. Becker, P.O. Box 143, Germiston, or the Secretary, P.O. Box 4179, Johannesburg, with promises of monthly donations of 5/-, 10/-, £1 or more, enclosing a first remittance with the promise.

Say in the spirit of the old Cornishmen: And shall "The Internationl" die,

A thousand class war men will wantsthe reason why.

If a hundred Socialists guarantee, (and remit) the price of a couple of bioscope tickets weekly, "The International" will still carry on the revolutionary class war in South Africa. Say that "The International" is not going to be snuffed out so easily as all that. POST IT NOW.

The Bankruptcy of Jingo Labour.

It is now definitely cabled that a national government has been formed in Australia, composed of Hughes and his Jingo Labour men with Joe Cook, the leader of the capitalist opposition. Thus, as usual, Australia points the moral: that "Jingo Labour" and "pro-capitalist" are synanymous terms. On the inclined plane of patriotism there is no stopping place for Labour men until they land in the bosom of a capitalist party.

The enthusiastic backing of Colonel Creswell by the Sunday Times and Rand Daily Mail also adorns the tale. Creswell is henceforth bound hand and foot to his capitalist masters.

The cleavage widens between those Labourites who part ed on the war issue in August 1915. Just as the one section can have no stopping place until it finds itself, on every question vital to the workers, actively abetting capitalist tyranny, as was the case during the economic conscription period a while back; so do the anti-war Labourites find themselves equally lost until they land in the revolutionary class struggle, boldly demanding the overthrow of capitalism, and all its horrors of peace and war. The war is a hog's back whose bristles no one can ride, but must fall on one side or the other. In short, it has made the question of Capitalism versus Socialism a live political issue.

The Death of Heroism.

"For three days Jack lost his company and was living on dead men's rations and German whisky. But he always tried it on a wounded Boche before he tackled it."—Extract from a New Zealand soldier's letter to his mother.

The war has killed all heroism. That is, all heroism in war. It has killed chivalry and honour—in war. All talk of war as a school of honour and high resolve is a lie. This war gives it the lie. South African soldiers from Delville Wood tell us that.

Their description of the horrors of that crime when six hundred odd out of six thousand answered the roll call is that of an inferno of mad men. Hysterical screaming of hundreds who pull out the photos of a sister, a sweetheart or wife. The cursing and imprecation of men who "go over the top" as a relief from the hell of the bombarded trench. One of them says that no "V. C. hero" has received a medal but has to be told what for. In this hell's caricature of war, a tornado of bones and flesh and brains of men buried and thrice unburied by cannon and rats, where dead bodies are your pillows from the cold, and the burial of the dead has become an expensive luxury, in this bottomless pit of the damned, men mercifully lose reason, lose consciousness, and know not what they to do.

A Delville Wood hero, if he is not dishing out the orthordox stuff for the *Mail* reporter, laughs cynically in despair of being able to describe the scene. There is no heroism, he says, there is only stark, staring madness. This war explodes

the idea that war is a school of heroism.

But heroism men must have. They will have to find it in the higher sphere of the class struggle.

Who Produces the Wealth.

The Secret of Wage-Slavery.

BY J. M. G.

The present war has shown the inherent weakness of the Capitalist system, its inability to handle the great masses and instruments of production and distribution. This failure is a justification to us Socialists, who have in the past held that it has always failed to give stability; and is responsible for all the antagonisms, conflicts and crime of society, periods of wild speculation and over production, with the inevitable depression ruinous to the workers, leading to starvation below and luxury above.

The wage system befogs the workers. They have the idea they are free men; and this ignorance is the root cause of their want of perception of how they are robbed of the fruits of their labour.

There could be no misunders standing as to who produced the wealth under å system of Chattel Slavery; nor yet under a system of Serfdom, as existed under feudalism. The Slave owners appropriated all the product of their Slave, and only left them sufficient to keep them physically fit to continue producing. Under feudalism the Villeins were compelled to give a certain number of days work each week, to their lords, without receiving any payment. The remaining portion of time was their own to produce food and clothing for themselves.

The economic system and form of society under these conditions were simple. There could be no mistake on the part of the slaves or serfs as to how they were robbed, and who were the robbers. But our modern form of capitalist production is more complex, and obscures the minds of the workers to the undoubted fact that all wealth is produced by labour, to be enjoyed by those having control of the tools, the machinery of production.

The modern form of production has herded the workers into large factories and workshops and mines; there to manipulate machinery owned by a few capitalists, who have the right to say who shall work for them, or who shall not, thus creating a system of industrial slavery.

The capitalists, having the tools, the instruments of production, buy all their raw material at market cost. But before they can make or produce anything, they have to buy another commodity, that is the labour-power of the workers, which is obtained at a mere subsistence wage.

In the production of a finished commodity is embodied the raw material, the cost of coal, electric or other power, the wear and tear of machinery, and the wages paid to the worker for his labour-power.

The finished article or commodity sells on the average for all that it costs to produce and more. If it were not so the capitalists would cease to produce, as, not being philanthropists, their only object is to make profit for themselves.

The profit, the difference between the cost of production and the amount received on the market's is created by the amount of unpaid labour embodied in the commodity.

The capitalist, in buying the power of the labourer, buys the commodity which the worker must sell to live. And the amount of wages received for this commodity,—his labour power, is regulated by the law of supply and demand;—that is, the workers competing amongst themselves on the labour market for jobs. This competition keeps wages at the line of bare subsistence, or a fraction above if the workers belong to a strong industrial union.

The capitalist buys labour-power because when applied in his service it adds more to the value of the commodity produced. The worker sells his labour-power for say 10 hours per day at a wage of 10/-. That is the cost of subsistence. In 2½, hours of that time he has embodied in useful commodities the value of the wages for 10 hours work; but having engaged for Inhours he continues to toil producing for the remaining portion of time, for which he receives nothing. This, his unpaid labour, constitutes Surplus Value, which the capitalist takes and divides amongst others in the form of interest, rent and taxes.

Thus the worker, for every hour he works for himself, works three hours for the capitalist, who may or may not do useful social service.

This example is a low average of the amount taken from the workers. They are robbed of considerably more, and have no remedy under the present system of capitalist production for profit, notwithstanding pole climbing reformist schemes for amending the system.

This System of Grab, of robbing the many in the interests of a few. can only be dealt with in our way, that is, make a clean sweep of the whole system. It has brutalised and degraded the larger portion of the members of society, has failed to give assurance of life to the individual, and stands indicted at the bar of universal justice as guilty of the foulest crimes against humanity.

The Troyeville Fight

Before this issue is in the hands of. readers the result of the Troyeville Election will be known. Whatever the result the League may claim alone to have asserted the class war at the election. No further justification is necessary for our entry into the contest. The little game of jockey and jostle to let in Creswell was somewhat interrupted during the week. Poor Macdonald lost leading article importance, and the fight was concentrated on the two competing Colonels, Creswell and Furse. The Mail boosted up the Labour Colonel, and The Star rallied for the other. This makes it clear that whichever of the three wins the capitalist will breathe freely again. The I. S. L. alone is a menace to them.

The League's manifesto was well distributed in the constituency. Meetings were held indoors and out every night in the last week. At the Town Hallsteps on Sunday comrades Bunting and Andrews spoke to a large crowd. and Comrade Wade held the floor in the Trades Hall. The outside meetings in the constituency were somewhat threatened by rowdies, supporters of Creswell mainly, but they were all successfully weathered. The meeting in the Government School was an unqualified success. Our open air meeting opposite the Jeppe Fire Station was a still greater success, when Comrade Bunting, Andrews, Clark and Wade addressed a large crowd. While the meeting in St. Augustine's Hall on the eve of the poll was the finest of the campaign. Comrades Andrew Watson, Colin Wade, Andrews and Forrester Brown dealt very effectively with the opposition, until at the end by sheer force of argument and personality our men had the meeting so thoroughly in hand that the Red Flag was sung enthusiastically at the close, the opposition even standing to attention meanwhile. The Election has proved a good rally for the comrades, and good propaganda has undoubtedly been achieved. Three cheers for our standard bearer in the fight, Comrade Colin.



The papers announce with glee a six to one victory for the Jingo Labourites at the recent Conference of the British Labour Party. Let them make no mistake! This does not mean the discomfiture of the one.! It only tells the number of the damned—they are the six.

Book Reviews.

BYS. G. RICH.

SOCIALISM AND WAR. By Louis B. Boudin. New York, 1916, The New Review Co. price one dollar. To be had from C. H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

Louis Boudin has in this book produced a volume of great value to the I.S.L. it is not an arsenal of propaganda-facts for the War on War: it is a clear and logical explanation of the Socialist attitude.

Boudin begins by clearing away. the various half-nationalistic ideas about the cause of the war that many Socialists hold. Following this is ta piece of analysis of the growth; of ¿capitalism into its latest phase, "imperialism based on the iron industry. The contrast between this present phase and the liberal capitalism of half a century ago is made very clear. Following this economic analysis is a survey of its mental reflexes—the growth of imperialistic ideas, "race 'superiority,' "cultures"—and all the rest of the watchwords of capitalism militant. In opposition to this, Boudin sets forth the Socialist position, based on the class struggle.

We of the I.S.L. are at one with Boudin in his conclusion that the class struggle must involve war on war. We shall gain in understanding both of our own position and of the causes for a deflection towards nationalistic views in some Socialist quarters, on reading this book.

As a result of the short Van Ryn Strike the membership of the S. A. Milie Workers Union on that mine has in creased eightfold.

The membership of the S.A.M.W.U. is making great increases on the West Rand where it has hitherto been weak. Mr. Toomey attributes this to the adoption of the system of local autonomy for Branches and District Committees. The Union suffered tremendous handicap in the past from the centralisation of control in the Head Office. It was a case of one General and all the rest privates. To-day the Union men meet and discuss their affairs along mine divisions. When it gets a branch meeting for every mine, and organises with the native miners, it will then be a Union to be reckoned with.

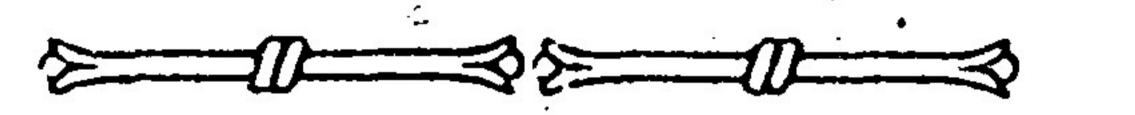
Have you subscribed to "The International," 5s. per annum, post free,

Box 4179, Johannesburg.

Conscription in New Zealand

We learn from our esteemed exchange "The Mouriland Worker" that Conscription is not faring too well in New Zealand:

"In every corner of New Zealand" there is dissatisfaction, discontent and serious unrest, arising out of the new situation created by the Conscript Law. Blackball and Roa miners are on strike, and apparently in nearly every other coal mining centre matters are immering towards a strike. The miners are practically exempted from military service if they care to appeal to the Tribunals when drawn in the ballot; but it now appears that they are determined not to recognise the Tribunals, and to resort to the strike in the event of their members being conscripted. Inangahua miners have forwarded to the Minister of Defence a most strongly worded resolution or protest, and it is said that the feeling among the metal miners is far more acute than even their resolution indicates. The flax workers have long since indicated their détermination to strike if their members are taken; and the same determination is said to be expressed all along the waterfront-What is true of the industries mentioned is true of almost every other industry; and it would be foolish indeed if we were to shut our eyes to the fact that New Zealand stands to-day on the brink of a dangerous industrial volcano which may flame into disastrous eruption at any moment."



Mr. Victor Grayson, a reputed Socalist, (there is a "reputed" pint measure and a standard one) is corresponding with Socalists and Labour men in this country with a view to arpranging a lecturing tour in South Africa.

"The Maoriland Worker" issues a warning of his doings in New Zealand.

"After having waited for more than two years before enlisting, Mr. Victor Grayson taunts the Labour men of New Zealand with" bleating harmlessly, well behind the fighting line, and to emphasise his own ardent patriotism he further calls them mouthing stand backs," and declares the N.Z. Labour movement is a traitor-stained cause."

This was said after a very remunerative lecturing tour paid for by the same "traitor stained cause"—the Labour movement.

Two Bidders For The Native Worker.

A very valuable paper entitled "Survey of the past and present Relations of the European and Bantu races in Natal and the Surrounding Territories," by Mr. Maurice S. Evans, C. M. G. was read some time ago at the Science Congress in Maritzburg.

The Author endeavoured to make his paper as scientific as possible, and to keep away altogether from politics.

la this he was not altogether successful, but the endeavour is obvious and undoubtedly sincere. The paper has been published in two parts in the Catholic Magazine for South Africa, August and September, 1916, and is well worth the consideration of all readers of the "International." Very careful observation over 45 years has caused Mr. Evans to put on record in a very lucid manner the passing away of the communal ownership of land, and the consequent driving to the town! large masses of labour which must sooner or later have the same effect as the same cause had in Germany in 1848, and in England in the eighteenth century.

Forty five years agothe. "Kaffir" was "the happiest being under the sun He was able to supply all his wants easily from the soil—an accomplishment he has largely forgotten. The system of wage earning—even in so short a period of time—has so altered the ideas of the "raw" native that to-day the women folk depend largely upon the wage earning capacity of the man to live. The Kraals have deteriorated out of comparison with other days, and the tribal system has largely disappeared. Contact with the "whites" has had one result the effect of which we cannot realise. It has prevented wars between the tribes and the internal killings that were an institution, and which largely "kept down the numbers of the people before the white man came," and the introduction of the wagon and the plough at an early date assisted the native increase in lessening the dangers of famine while "Native customs, sanctions and controls still kept the people moral and healthy."

Up to a point, then, contact with the white man had benefitted the native. Rum, however, was introduced very early, but it was not untill 1886, when Gold was discovered, that the social and economic position of the

native could be said to have taken a charge for the worse. To quote Mr. Evans "The life of the ordinary native has been changed both directly and indirectly by this event. The familis, on which up till this time, he could live his ancestral life, are no longer natural spaces undefined: and unaltered by man's action. Fences extend all over the country; open grass lands liave been covered with plantations: . the white man's crops run continuously for miles; the live stock, which used tograze with that of the hative, must be kept apart and carefully guarded from contamination, and the cattle of the native, if he has any, must be fenced. off in the most sterile portion of the farm. The rent demanded by the landowner has increased enormously; and instead of simply asking from his tenant a few weeks work in the year, the native is now bound by contract to work continuously for months, or in cases even for years, and if he wants to earn higher wages at a distance must ask permission to do it,"

That, of course, it is obvious could have but one effect i. e. the driving of "labour" to the industrial centres,—a very old process which Mr. Evans thinks surprising. And, bear in mind, the process is still going on merrily, and each year sees more and more "black labour" going into the industrial mill.

The kraal natives are no longer free men. A custom has sprung up among the farmers of making cash advances to "boys," and the native now looks forward to getting a few shillings in advance from a prospective boss to whom he will promise anything when he wants the cash-- which is usually required to pay off some one elseand, the process being repeated, the native eventually becomes merely a bought slave and loses all hope of paying his indebtedness; thus tending to become crafty and a confirmed shirker which, all things considered, is very natural.

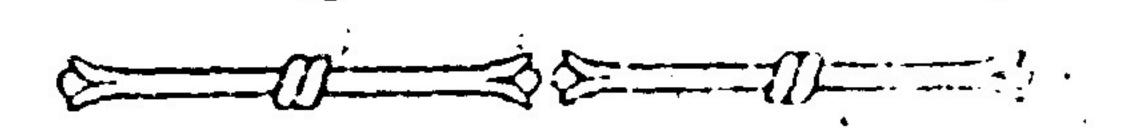
Now, while all this is going on the Native is fast becoming educated. Reading and Writing is daily becoming more common an accomplishment, and "many have passed the higher examinations which have proved a stumbling block to white students" while by "actually doing the manual work in mine and shop, by watching and helping the white men at the skilled work, they have learned as much about the technique as those employing them, and if allowed to do so could, with a little training, actually supplant the skilled man."

of Comrade Wades Biology, and Lasthe merit of being true.)

And so in the Transvaal we have the colour bar, and the white miner and artizan is kept busy with Mother Partingtons mop. The big businesses have known for years that their industries can be run at one tenth of the wages cost quite efficiently as at present, with a little—oh! such a little—training of this New Industrial Army, ready and willing to be exploited and, to learn:

cording to the evidence of Mr. Richardson, shows that the white miner at least is begining to realise the situation. But we have a long way to go before the danger will be fully realised by the Mast majority of workers who curse "black" labour because it is BLACK—and not because it is CHEAP and efficient. Mr. Evans points the moral to Big Business. We as Socialists point another moral and a remedy to the wage slave. Who will get there first?

SEN YAH.



On the ground of the class, struggle we are invincible; if we leave it we are lost, because we are no longer Socialists. The strength and power of Socialism rest in the fact that we are leading a class struggle.

WILLIAM LIEBKNECHT.

Personal:—The Johannesburg Central Branch will badly miss a devoted member in Mrs. Marynen, who has left Johannesburg for Natal. Comrade Marynen was an assiduous distributor of socialist leaflets, and a regular supporter of our meetings. We all wish her good luck in her new sphere.

The South African mine workers
Union have had an election of officers.
Mr. Toomey has been elected for the
third or fourth time. Mr. Toomey has
been a coal merchant for some years.
We would meekly suggest to the
miners that it is time they were represented by a working miner.

Have you subscribed to "The International,"

5s. per annum, post free, Box 4179,

Johannesburg.

He who slays a King and he who dies for one are alike idolators.

G. BERNARD SHAW

International Socialist League (S. A.)

OBJECT: To propagate the principles of International Socialism and anti-militarism and to maintain and strengthen international working class organisation.

P. O. Box 4179 'Phone 6035.

6 Trades Hall, Rissik Street, Johannesburg

General Secretary: D. Ivon Jones.

BRANCH DIRECTORY.

Benoni: — Meetings every Tuesday evening at Smith's Studio, 14 Lake Ayenue. Secretary: T. Chapman, c o Lake Ayenue and Swan Street.

Johahnesburg Eastern Districts: Sceretary C. B. Tyler, 13 Evans St. Forest Hill.

Johannesburg Central: Public Meetings every Sunday night; at Trades Hall, Rissik Street. Secretary: W. J. C. Gibson, 238 Smit Street, Wanderers View.

Germiston: -- Joint Secretaries W. Prince, Box (4. and E. H. Pecker, 54) Queen St.

Durban: - Public meetings every Sunday night at Acutts Buildings. Secretary W. S. Mabbott, 353 Point Road.

The General Dealers and the Court Tea Rooms registered Boksburg 1916, name Demostlernia Sofianos, on Stand 142, Vogelfontein, has been transferred to Diamondo Sofianos, as from 191, January 1917.

The Kaffir Eating House and Butchery registered Boksburg 1916 name H. Mowsowitz, on Stand 315, Driefontein Farm.has been abandoned as from 31st. December 1916.

The business of Agent or Broker registered by J. J. P. Albertze No. 27 Ninth Street, Vrededorp, in January 1916 has been abandoned as from December 31st 1916.

C. & L. Clingman Party's agents. 25, Mercantile Bldgs., c r Commissioner & Simmonds Sts, Johannesburg.

The General Dealer business registered at the Revenue Office, Johannesburg on January, 1916, by the The Smokeless Coal Agency Ltd., 51. Staib Street, Doornfontein, was removed to Newtown Coal Yards. Newtown.

C. & L. Clingman Parties Agents, 25, Mercantile Buildings, Commissioner and Simmonds Sts., Johannesburg, 26.2.9

The General Dealer's Kaffir Eating House and Butchery registered Boksburg 1916, name M, Hirschowitz trading as 'Hyman & Hirschowitz' on stand 173, Driefontein Farm, abandoned and partnership dissolved on the 31/12/16, 26, 2, 9

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