THE INTERNATIONAL.

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War bonuses are the talk of the time among the employees of the Rand. A writer in The Weekly People says it would be a terrible thing if the typo made an error, and instead of "Bonus to Wage earners," set "Bones to wageparners." The Telegraphers Union of America at least are not fooled with the War Bonus. In their official journal they state:

"While any relief, no matter how temporary it may be, is always welcome to the worker, the telegraphers employed by the Western Union are too intelligent to be appeased for long by anything short of a substantial increase in wages for which the bonus given is not a decent substitute.

"The company has followed its usual tactics of placing a substantial string to everything that it may give to the workers. In this case, the bonus is expected to help them tide over a period when the telegrapher's could insist upon a living wage and establish their rights as an insurance against the future. As it stands, should the guess of the Western Union officials be right, the telegraphers will sacrifice the permanent benefits to be derived through organization because they received a. 6 or 7 per cent. bonus in 1916. Nobody can tell what it will be in 1917, and what will happen to telegraphers when another depression comes?

"If the company had advanced wages 7 per cent. in 1916, and then reduced them a year hence, considerable unrest would follow. But a bonus is different. It can be given one year and withheld the next year. For the thoughtless, the bonus is a great institution, but among intelligent telegraphers it will lack appreciation.

This is exactly the position on the Rand. War Bonus to Miners, War Bonus to Mechanics, War Bonus to Tramwaymen, what does it all mean? They are BONES for the Miners. Mechanics and Tramwaymen to chew and keep them quiet at the very period when they are in a position to organise and demand substantial permanent improvements in their working conditions.

The temporary agreement arrived at between the Mechanics and the Chamber of Mines quite recently, to hold good till three months after the war, an agreement not endorsed by the rank and file of the A.S.E., is a good WAR BONE from the Employers' point of view. It has been pointed out by an A. S. E. comrade that the effect of this WAR BONE is that, in any discontent likely to arise during the war, this "agreement" will be a source of disunity and schism in the but of hope. We are not giving them the distant alternative ranks of the mechanics. Some will disregard it as not binding, and others will make it an excuse for disloyalty to their class.

WAR BONUSES and agreements are WAR BONES to keep Labour quiet while the capitalist prepares the Afterthe-War nooze that, he hopes, will effectually tie him up. Have none of their sops. Get the wage advanced, the hours These victories bring a sense of strength and reduced. solidarity.

Samples of Capitalist Reform.

A sample of what becomes of all attempts to reform society by so called Labour legislation is provided in the administration of the Phthisis Act. This week, John McDermett, a miner, was sentenced to 14 days hard labour (suspended) for having worked in a mine after receiving phthisis compensation, though subsequently declared immune from phthisis after further examination. Mr. Hadfield. the magistrate (as in another case reported this week) kept up a running fire of prejudiced and unworthy comment against the accused and his character such as a theoretically unbiassed bench ought to be ashamed of. Because for sooth having received £196 compensation in 1914, was refused further relief in 1915, got his blasting certificate returned to him by the Board, he had in consequence to seek work in the mines to support his wife and family!

This is a copy of a printed form, scores of which are issued by the Phthisis Board:

"With reference to your application to my Board for benefits under section 10 of Act 44. 1916, I have been instructed to inform you that as the certificate of the Medical Bureau signifies that you are not suffering from Miners Phthisis, you are not entitled to receive any further benefits under the act. I would also point out that, as you have already received benefits under the Act, you are not, under any circumstances whatever, permitted to resume work underground on any of the Scheduled Mines."

Is it altogether an accident that all Acts of Parliament leave loopholes for spoofing the wage-earners? All the "Parliamentary brains" of South Africa have been engaged on Miners' Phthisis for a good few years past. Either there are no Parliamentary brains in South Africa or the capitalist has more than enough of legislative cunning at his command, for no Phithisis Act seems capable of generos-

There is no brain that can reform the capitalist system. It may seem cold-blooded advice to phthisis men, but while men regard their wage-slavery as the natural and immutable order, there is no escape from capitalist legislation, which is capitalist cunning, making victims of men under the guize of salving their wounds. Lift not your hands to the State for deliverance, for the State is only the Executive Committee, "the police organisation," of the class that gives you phthisis. ? Parliamentary legislation is a mirage whose promise turns to brine for the parched wage-earner in every new piece of Labour Legislation so loudly acclaimed.

. We are not giving Phthisis men counsel of despair, of a doubtful Utopia. Socialism has a message for them now, as well as for the future. It is this: That the only way to make parliament perform the will of the workers is by industrial solidarity. What measure of relief Phthisis men have already received is the measure of solidarity they have shewn, not as parliamentary voters merely, but as workers in their industry. This then is the simple way of escape from all capitalist wiles, to organise solidly, not as miners, but as mine-workers in the common cause of wage-labour without distinction of craft or colour. This is the way of relief for the present, and the way to beneficent revolution in the future.

Race Prejudice.

By J. M. G.

the Rand between capitalists for, and the white workers against, the introduction of a body of coloured workers with a low standard of living, is very imperfectly understood by the white workers. Their prejudices against colour is warping and distorting their understanding of the question. They fail to grasp the economic basis of the problem. They do not understand the evolutionary forces in society.

This struggle for and against the employment of the coloured worker is very similar to the struggle that took place between the capitalists and workers on the introduction of machinery to take the place of the hand workers. The blind resistance of the workers against machinery was futile. They were beaten in that struggle, and the forces of evolution triumphed.

So to-day the evolutionary forces will win. You cannot keep back the coloured workers. They are here to stay. The capitalist class want cheap labour, and the supply is here ready to meet their demand.

The white workers will have to divest themselves of their race prejudices. They will have to look at the problem from an economic standpoint, and not from the social or sentimental point of view. Their only hope is to organise these coloured workers with themselves in a strong industrial union. By doing so they will be able to control the condition of their labour and raise the standard of living of these coloured workers to their own level, failing this the white workers must inevitably fall to the coloured standard of living.

Labour power is the commodity the workers have to sell for wages. The amount they receive on the average is determined by the cost of production, that is a bare subsistence which keeps them physically fit to continue working and reproducing other workers to take their place when they fall out and are scrapped as useless by the capitalist class.

This bare subsistence wage is subject to the fluctuations of the market, that is supply and demand, which sometimes sends wages slightly above and sometimes below the line of bare subsistence.

The white worker, in offering his labour power in competition against the coloured worker with his low

standard of living is offering a commodity which costs more to reproduce and must therefore go under.

The capitalist system is not run on philanthropic lines. The capitalists are after profits all the time. They tell us, quite truly, "there is no sentiment in business;" they want cheap labour, no matter what colour, and coloured labour with its lower standard of living is going to be introduced by the employing class.

Industrial Unionism is the only solution to the problem, organised on the broad lines of no colour bar. The workers will be able to put up a strong fight against the capitalist class, if united on the principle that the interests of the working class, irrespective of colour, are identical and irreconcilably opposed to the capitalist class. There can be no compromise, Capital is organised to maintain and extend its power to exploit labour. The worker must therefore organise to unite ALL WAGE EARNERS to combat capital.

The white workers must descend, from the pedestal of race prejudice, must cease to have an inflated idea of their own value as a superior race. The Bantu races are quite capable of doing all the necessary unskilled and semi-skilled work required by the employing class. They are doing it to a great extent to-day, and will displace the white workers still more in the near future.

This is not a question of loving your Black Brother, nor yet of loving your white brethren, but a simple question of economics. The coloured workers need the help of the white workers, and they in return must unite with the coloured workers to combat the insidious demand of the capitalist class for cheap labour.

The only hope for both races is to be united in an industrial organisation. They may then look at the future with confidence, pressing forward unitedly step by step towards the goal, the emancipation of labour from the thraldom of capital.

To you the worker, no matter what your race or colour, belongs the future You are the only class to take control on the disruption of society as at present formed. Yours is the historic mission to inaugurate the Co-operative. Commonwealth, abolishing all class distinction, all class rule.

Have you subscribed to 'The International,"

53. per anaum, post free, Box 4179,

Johannesburg.

Moral Pressure.

Town Councillors will fight to the last drop of their employee's blood.

A motion that pressure be brought to bear upon all single eligible employees of the Council to join the overseas Brigade, provided a full dress parade in the Johannesburg Town Council last week.

The motion was moved by Anstey;
Manfred Nathan complained that the
word "pressure" was too vague. So
the word "moral" was inserted to give
it a definite, mathematical, unequivocal, foot-rule meaning; and the
Doctor was satisfied. "Morality!
what hypocrites have not swanked in
thy name." Bernard Alexander, born
in Posen, but whose capitalist treasure
is now bound up with allied finance,
out-jingoed all the rest in his desire
to see other people's employees going
to fight.

The opposition was led by comrade J. A. Clark, who was supported by some Labourites, and Butler, the Nationalist.

Last week we stigmatized Gow, Dingwall and Scott as Labourite economic conscriptionists because they signed the requisition to discuss the motion. That is their fault. Barlow and Scott, two Labour members, were among the 11 who voted for the motion, and the six against were, Butler, Clark, Mrs. Dingwall, D. Dingwall and Gow.

Thus marching orders are given to every species of ragging and browbeating of municipal employees under the benign term, "moral pressure." From these and all other petty tyrannies nothing can save them, not even Socialist and Labour orations, except industrial solidarity and the principle of "an injury to one is an injury to all."

Capitalist Gratitude Again.

A Durban comrade writes:

The two captured German Ships "Professor Wohlman" and "Hunt-scliff," owned by the Government and used by them for transportation of troops, have been running with black labour at TRADE UNION RATES.

Now:—
6 Native Greasers £8 0 0 per month all found
1 ,. Storek seper 8 0 0 ,, ,,
15 Native Firsmen 7 10 0 ,, ,,
12 ,, Trummers 7 0 0 ,, ,,
18 & talois 7 0 0 ,, ,,

after 12 months aboard have been replaced by Coolies imported from India for the jobat 30/- to £3 (top price). What about the variegation bar!

Yes, and what about the native contingent gone to Europe to fight for equality and recognition. This is a sample of all the recognition they will get from Capitalist governments.

Trial By Torture.

International Socialism does not recognise any special militarism called German militarism. Militarism is militarism everywhere. Wherever a man puts on a soldiers uniform, whether in Germany, Britain or "free" America, he thereby loses all his humanity.

This is how militarism works in England. It is a clipping from The Labour Leader!

The Case of Charles Dukes.

We regret that owing to the fact that our Comrade Dukes did not belong to either the I.L.P. or N.C.F. he was a member of the B.S.P.), and that his signed and witnessed. statement of gross ill-treatment was sent to Trade Union leaders whose military obsessions seem for the time, at least, to have deadened every other perception, no public attention was drawn to his case until George Beardsworth came to undergo a like brutality of treatment; nearly a month later. Mr. Dukes is exceptionally strong, physically as well as morally, and there are many witnesses to prove that he held out for far longer and against even worse brutalities than those inflicted upon Beardsworth, with no help from out-

side of any kind. It will be remembered that both his own personal appeal as a conscientious objector on moral grounds and the appeal of his Trade Union for him as an indispensable official were dismissed by the Local Tribunals. From first to last he has protested his irreconcilable determination never to allow himself to be made a soldier. He has never accepted soldiers' pay, never carried a gun, never been vaccinated, and continually has made protests that would have sent any other soldier before a court-martial. Only in the matter of drilling to escape a violence and savagery that seemed to be without limit he yielded at last. As in the case of Beardsworth, he was pummelled by special instructors" until he was bruised from head to feet and dragged by main force round the drill field. When he refused to march or mark time his ankles were kicked till they were swollen—his arms and wrists were twisted—on one occasion his hair was torn out of his head. As in the case of Beardsworth, he was sent on to the gymnasium squad, and was there thrown over the vaulting horse, hurled time after time over the seven feet palisade, and dragged round the field between relays of men until he was in a state of semi-consciousness and details faded from his mind. Together with George Benson he is again on full strike, and at this moment we believe is under detention with him in the guardroom.

This is the sort of thing that follows the entry of Labour into a Capitalist Cabinet! Fancy a Trade Union Organiser having to endure these tortures while the pedestalled popinjays

of British Labour are sipping wine with his torturers! What in the name of heaven do the Trade Unions think we are fighting for.

Look at the following picture of militarism. It will fit militarism of any shade. You can call it German, British, Russian or American, it makes no difference. It is reported in the Manchester Guardian, a good and faithful capitalist paper, but one of the few fair ones.

"The events which followed (the rioting) are an almost incredible record of panic, mismanagement, and injustice. Under martial law, which lasted three months, though the riots were quelled in a fortnight, several people whose innocence was afterwards established were thrown into prison, flogged, or even shot without trial; persons charged on suspicion were forced to purchase immunity from trial for cash down; the country was scoured by 'special commissioners' in motor-cars with powers to 'shoot at sight' any one refusing them information, and to extort alike from the innocent and the guilty compensation for the damage done under threat of a forced levy. These facts and others of the kind, some of which are revealed in the Governor's dispatches and others in sworn affidavits of prominent citizens, European and native, make it clear that a far graver danger to Ceylon and to the traditions of British rule lay in the means taken to deal with the riots than in the riots themselves...'

I suppose you were beginning to swell your chest that these surely must be some more German atroceties, until you stumbled over the word "British" at the end. Nearly as bad as a patent medicine advert. But it is only the record of some disturbances against authority on the part of wage-slaves in Ceylon during 1916, and how the men in uniform dealt with it. Militarism is Capital's only remaining weapon against Labour, and the fight against militarism is the same as the fight against Capital. It is in vain that the Trade Unions will cry out in the days of capitalist retribution. In so much as they supported recruiting? blessed the army uniform, and condoned the economic conscription of the workers are they directly responsible for military outrages like the above.

By a majority of 1,537 votes to 1,407, the French Socialist Congress held in December adopted a motion declaring that it would consider the question of a general reunion of the Internationale only when the German Socialist party had transmitted to the International Socialist Bureau precise resolutions defining the attitude which it intended to take in view of the refusal of the Central Empires to define clearly the character of their offers of negotiations for peace.

Prosecutions of Pacifists.

Comrade Wilfrid Harrison's Case.

Two, prosecutions for antiwar propaganda are now before the Capetown Court.

Comrade Harrison is again up on a charge of having "wrongfully and wilfully failed to comply with section 4 of orders issued under the provisions of section 2 of Act No. 1 of 1914 (special session) entitled the Public welfare and moratorium Act" before three (named) persons and others to prosecutors unknown, matter calculated to create alarm or excite public feeling

The main charge against Comr Harrison is of having repeated statement (contained in an article the first issue of 'The Internationa and reproduced from a Stead-Fishe interview in the Review of Reviews that Lord Fisher said 5 years ago tha we should boil our prisoners in oil, and torture their women and children.

Comrade Harrison's case was remanded, bail for £10 being given. Further information will be given in next issue, when we hope to have learnt the position from our S. D. F. comrades.

"The Interpreter" in Court.

Professor Freemantle appeared in the Capetown Court last Friday on the same charge, to wit of having published an article by Mrs. Hurdus of Natal in "The Interpreter" for November 30.

The offending passages in the article in question, as reported in the Cape Times, are as follows:—

May I call upon the mothers of South Africa to unite in prayers. thought and labour with the thousands of noble mothers and sisters of Europe to stop this mad march of revenge, hatred, ruthless slaughter and torture! Once more we hear the shouting, singing, screaming, and marching of the recruiting committee, women rushing about cajoling, bribing, coercing, insulting men, offering white feathers, jeers and sneers at anyone who dares to have the courage of his own convictions. girls exchanging womanly modesty and propriety for a few recruits. cigarettes given and received by young women, and smoking and drinking with men, and in many cases girls sacrificing their honour in these moments of madness and excitement. Sir, it was openly suggested by a recruiting committee for girls not to be too particular and to assist their King and country by whatever gifts they possessed! even it was said, "your beauty and dimpled smile may win a young man te the Colours." Alas, a dangerous

suggestion. Also the suggestion was made that the committee would he responsible for any consequences. Lo the ever incrowding and inrushing evils! Not only are our sons. lives being walked over as so many ants, but our girls body, soul and spirit are being sacrificed in this made whirlwind of raging passions and burning excitement. Shall we allow this onward march of war-bitten madmen until the fit manhood of Europe are wiped out and our country peopled by the remnant of the morally and physically unfit by old and withered men? Our women sacrificed on the altar of lust and passion? Can it be women's duty to bow submissively before this slaughter and carnage, as before a natural calamity? Over 6,000,000 already killed, the picked men of each nation! Such is this war whose benefits were so much boasted of.

The Censor, who prosecuted, interpreted it to say "that His Majesty's government, in the prosecution of the said war is recklessly wasting the lives of His Majesty's male subjects and is conniving at the sacrifice of honour by His Majesty's female subjects as a means of obtaining recruits for the said army."

This case is also under remand.

International Socialist League (S. A.)

OBJECT: To propagate the principles of International Socialism, Indu trial Unionism, and anti-militarism, and to maintain and strengthen international working class organization.

P. O. Box 4179

Phone 6035.

6 Trades Hall, Rissik Street, Johannesburg

General Sccretary:

D. Ivon Jones.

LEAGUE NOTES.

JOHANNESBURG.

The League Meeting in front of the Town Hall was abandoned last Sunday owing to inclement weather. In the Trades Hall, Comrades J. P. Anderson took the chair, and C. B. Tyler delivered the address. The Chairman in his opening remarks referred to the undoubted fact that the Jingoes of two years ago in the Labour movement are now doubters, and have to admit the rightness of the "International" standpoint, though lacking the courage yet of coming boldly out for our policy.

"Jingoes" and how they were manufactured. The new Japanese capitalist would soon be exciting his cheap workers against America and the English, and the cotton workers of Manchester. Church Lads Brigades, Boy Scouts, Orphanages, etc. all turned out confirmed Jingoes for Capitalist governments.

The lecturer referred to the fact that while in 1913 the Trade Unions were wicked hotbeds of sedition, today the Rand Daily Mail slobbered over them, and urged the workers to join up; which contributed to show

that Craft Unions were obsolete for the workingclass.

Remember the League's Cinderella Dance next Wednesday evening at Professor Wests Academy. Tickets 2/6. Bring all your friends.

DURBAN.

The Socialist Sunday School had a fishing picnic on Sunday the lith in a couple of motor boats lent by Compettersen. An enjoyable day in spite of a famine in bait!

On Thursday, report of delegates, to Conference was adopted after a long discussion.

Comrade Campbell has now got into harness, and gave his first lecture of a series of nine on Socialism in History entitled "Historical Materialism" on Sunday last at 54 Acutts Arcade to a comfortably filled hall. The lecture was attentively followed throughout and the questions and discussion following the lecture showed that the points made by Com. Campbell had been appeciated by his audience. The lectures to follow are:

(2) The Class Struggle. (3) Surplus Value, (4) Earlier Social Struggles, (5) Bibliograph of Socialism, (6) The State Civil, (7) The State Theocratic, (8) Militarism, (9) "Industrial and Political Summary;" and we hope to have good attendances to record.

Durban Branch members please note that they, the members themselves, are often conspicuous by their absence at Sunday evening lectures; but they cannot afford to miss this series. So please draw their attention to it, Mr. Editor, as our friends the S. D. P. members—who know a good thing when they see it—are working harmoniously with us to give "Jock" the attention he deserves.

Comrade Harry Haynes is now appointed Branch Secretary.



"The Political Devil."

There is a "Church Crisis" in the Free State, because the anti-imperialists rule the roost there. Consequently the other lot are preparing petitions, according to "The Star." The protesters, mainly from the Cape and Transvaal, where the Botha Party rules the church, "appeal to the church authorities to banish the political devil from the church."

You see, if the church preaches the politics of top capital, its all right; but its all wrong for it to preach the politics of small property, that is, Nationalism. Furse may foam and rave: "God Strafe the slackers." That is what the church is for, there is no "political devil" there; but when it refuses to "bless the flag," then there is a hitch in the capitalist machinery. For capitalism lives by the "organisation of idolatry," as well as by force.

Improbable Epitaphs.

BY PHILLIPS RUSSELL, in The Masses.

Here Lies the Body of HENLI L. WATKINS

Late private. Co. K. Kentish Rifles, who fell at Ypres, March 20, 1915. He died to establish the supremary of British over German tin pier plates in the Market of Tierra del Fuego. Hence this monument, erected in grateful memory by The Sheffield Manufacturers' Association.

Here Rest the Remains of HANS SCHMIDT

Cook, 118th Regiment, Bavarian Landsturn, who died of exhaustion at Pozieres, France, July 26, 1916. He sacrificed himself on the altar of the Fatherland, that its goods might no longer suffer unjust discrimination at the customs house at Shanghai, China. Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Here is the Resting Place of MIKAIL MIKAILOVITCH

89th Siberian Cavalry, who gave up his life in the battle at the crossing of the Stokhod River, July 22, 1916, in order that the Russkoye Import and Export Company of Moscow might have a Warm Port on the Atlantic Ocean, and free trade through the Dardanelles.

Acknowledgements.

The Finance and Press Committees have decided to acknowledge on this page weekly, by initials only, (unless requested not to) all donations received for the Press Fund. Subscriptions and other business receipts will naturally not be included.

From February 1st. L. M: £1.

S. M: 5s. S. P. B: £1. B. S: £1.

J. D. B: 15/-. I. W: 10/-. S. V. L: 15/. D. P. C: £1. C. B: £1. H. B: 5/-. D. B. & Z: 5/-. Anon: 2/6. E. H. B: 10/-. C. B. T: 5/-. W. R: 10/-. H: 2/6. J. M. G: 15/-. F. G: 5/-. A. P: 2/6. C. J: 10/-. H. W. H: £1. E. J. B: £2. J. N: £1 1s.

The annual elections of officers of the South African Industrial Federation were held on Sunday,—President, Mr. J. Forrester Brown, M.P.C.; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. T. Buxton and H. A. Wyeth; Treasurer, Mr. H. Bainard; Committee, Messrs. G. Mason, C. Welch, H. Lee, H. Spendiff, L. Bradbury, J. Allen, C. J. Patrick, J. Richmond and E. Dingwall. A goahead committee this time.

The Dairy business known as Slatter's Dairy carried on at Melrose Home Farm by W. Cooke and W. Slatter has been changed by the said W. Cooke gretiring therefrom and being replaced therein by Harry Gunning as from 1st. February 1917.

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