THE INTERNATIONAL.

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

P.O. Box 4179.

6 Trades Hall, Rissik Street.

Johannesburg

No. 80

FRIDAY 13 APRIL 1917.

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

The Magnificent Rewards of Loyalty.

Governor General's Fund to employers. The form asks for confidential information as to the antecedents of an employee who has gone to fight, with a view, presumably, to docking the pay to his dependents, and to find out whether he is a good boy or not. Oh, the pecksniffing that must be going on round Tommy's happy home while Tommy is away fighting, to see if Tommy's wife is not revelling in more pianos than one, or is not earning sufficient to keep her from going to the market to sell her lallour. Our correspondent writes: —

The point is that the Governor General's Fund advertise in black letters that the dependents of a man who entists will receive £1 per month from the fund, or more according to family, in addition to the Imperial separation allowance. After he has enlisted, this method of secret enquiry for the purpose of diddling the dependents is resorted to."

"Any employer with a grudge against a man it seems is altowed to use the machinery of the Fund (to which the victim may have been a staunch subscriber) for the purpose of shewing the wage slave that he has a long way to go to get out of the clutches of the boss."

Well, the way out of the clutches of the boss is not to Flanders, but to Socialism.

A Craft Union Trick.

Craft Unions and officials recognise they must hang together or less their jobs. Sham political unity makes for political jobs. That is why people intrigue for it. Industrial disunity, or craft unionism, makes for Craft jobs. That is why officials want to preserve it.

membership into the new Building Workers Industrial Union Mr. Herbert Augustus Wyeth, official of the Union, issues this week a leaflet calling upon the Johannesburg Bricklayers to remain outside and form a seperate Union, asserting that the new Building Workers Union is organised by the International Socialist League, and is against the S. A. Industrial Federation.

We do not accept the soft impeachment. The new union is an amalgamation that is still largely imbued with the craft spirit. Its members cannot come out of their craft unions as sinners and enter the larger union as saints all at once. They are not clear on the necessity of organising with the native labourers in the Building Industry, altho the constitution allows it. Nevertheless, it is a good try. With propaganda among its members it is a great step forward.

Mr. Wyoth's attempt to divide the Bricklayers in the matter is another instance of the danger of craft officials,

whose vested interest in jobs, present or to come, are a bar to the unity of the workers. The leaflet mentioned also suggests by its drafting that some power behind Herbert Augustus is responsible. Big fleas have lesser fleas to bite (for) 'em.

Nothing however can keep the workers from combining more efficiently, not even Mrs. Partington and her craft union broom. Whoever stands in the way of the big engine of working class solidarity will sooner or later find that it is "so much the worse for the eoo."

Industry Knows no Race or Colour.

The Springs Branch of the National Party says it is opposed to forming a separate Afrikander Union of Mineworkers, as the Dutch mineworkers are linking up with the S.A.M.W.U. in large numbers. The Branch recommends its Head Office to advise all Afrikanders to join the present Mineworkers Union, "the newcomers being nearly all Dutch and Nationialist." "The Interpreter" welcomes the suggestion, and trusts that the Nationialist leaders will take in hand the question of the conditions of Labour on the Rand. "Large numbers of the Boer people are seeking the fields of industry and it is time that the National Party took cognisance of this, not only in its own interest. [italies ours] but also n that of the people for whom it speaks"

No go! Labour solidarity knows no race or colour. The National Shibboleth may claim the attention of Afrikander mineworkers yet awhile, but only as a thing apart from their working class interest, like psalm singing. "Ours is a Boer Party," says the English organ of Nationalism. Just so, and although it might seem a hard saying, Boer and small trade interests will never flow together with the interests of the industrial proletariat. Nationalism in the present war, as "The Interpreter" itself illustrates, provides many a welcome salve for the brutalities and horrors of Imperial Capitalism. But that is because it looks backward to the arcadias of small property, when most men owned the tools with which they laboured. Its cries in the wilderness is the bleat of the lost sheep. Its political watchwords invariably hark back to past grievances, "Concentration Camps," "Language disabilities," and insults and indignities kept alive from times of long ago.

But it forgiveth all things. While Nationalism is still harping about Hertzog's ejection from the ministry in 1912, Labour has forgiven the Commissioner Street massacres in 1913. It presses eagefly forward, leaving the things that are behind.

The great machinery of industry is a school which will educate the Afrikander worker out of all recognition by his Boer compatriot. As the Dutch worker organises in the mines and other industries he will have no need of any party that is not a direct reflex of his own economic strength. And the time is coming when the party of the small Boer farmers will be rudely awakened from its utopian dream of exploiting an economic organisation of the workers for party interest. The time will even come when, in spite of every affinity of language and early association, the National Party will be face to face with the Afrikander wage-earners in an open conflict of interest. Afrikander workers, it is yours to awaken and learn Not in nationalism, but in the international unity of the workers lies your great hope.

"Efficiency —The latest Catchword.

By J. M. G.

The latest and most up to date catch-word of the capitalist class is Efficiency. They must have more efficient wage slaves to increase the output of commodities.

Efficiency is being advocated in all sorts and conditions of papers and magazines. The clerks in some of their magazines are shown by illustration the correct and quickest method of grasping their pencils and putting them into action. The brick-layers are instructed how it is possible to lay more bricks for their good, kind bosses. And in unloading a trolley the workers are shown how to unload in less than no time.

These good kind bosses recognise the advantage of catching the budding workman, and are keenly interested in all technical and Trades Schools with the object of imbuing the rising generation of wage slaves with the cult of efficiency, love and obedience to their bosses.

The capitalists, in advocating this efficiency, are quite candid. They must have an increased ou.put of commodities. They recognise that the debtineurred by the war has to be paid; and are going to get an increased surplus value from the workers to do it. They are using the old dope of the interests of capital and Labour being-identical. That good friend of the workers, John D. Rockfeller, says they are identical; and he is supported by Mr. Holt, the head of the "Holt Line of Steamships". So what all these proved friends of Labour say must be true.

The capitalists in all countries have decided to recognise the Craft Union. They know, and none better, how easy it is to secure the average craft union officials, and get them to sell the workers. They know how the craft unions have scabbed on each other, in the past to the detriment of workers as a whole, and to the interests of the employing class. They know and none better, the value of the maxim, "divide and rule."

The whole movement is towards having a docile mass of workers. The main purpose, as our local pet prefessor of Political Economy puts it, is to put the staff and hands of industrial undertakings in such a position that they, at least, do not feel thostile towards the bedy corporate

willing to do their best out of a feeling of interest and affection for it." Yes, the workers are to have a feeling of interest and affection for the robber class, a class that cannot exist without robbing the workers.

The employing class in all their actions are preparing for the inevitable struggle that must take place at the close of the war. They can see the tendency of the workers to break away from the old craft unions, and form industrial unions on the broader basis of class interests.

They are making a supreme effort to side track the movement for industrial organisations. They have every hope of controlling the workers as members of craft unions by playing off one union against another.

combination of workers that does not meet their approval, and which they may consider a menace to a continued increasing output of commodities. President Wilson in his Shadow Lawn speech dilated upon the right of the individual to work or refuse as he thought fit; but when a number of individuals combined to withhold their labour it became a conspiracy against the State and could not be allowed.

This is the view held by many of the leading capitalists in that and other countries. They are willing to allow tame Craft Unions and give their blessing to them, providing like good boys they do what their good Bosses tell them.

The whole movement the get efficient wage slaves with control of the craft unions through bribery, is an effort on the part of the capitalist class to give a longer lease to a system that is fast hastening to its downfall, a downfall that will be hastened by the rapid industrial development of Russia, which must now take place lowing to the successful revolution which has placed the political machinery in the hands of the rising capitalist class of that country.

To combat the insidious methods of the capitalist class the workers must discard all their side tracking tactics. They must recognise that these officiency schemes are nothing but schemes to hefog the workers and aid more profit to the employing class. Let them understand there can be no identity of interest between Robber and Robbed. Let them organise on the broad basis of class, irrespective of colour, with the objective of taking control of society on the downfall of the present system; which is rapidly approaching its end, and on the ruins erect the administration of things in place of the government of men; — The Co-operative Commonwealth of the Workers.

The Socialist College.

The hope of devoted Socialists all over the world is centred upon the instruction of the young, in the economic principle and moral aspects upon which the teaching of Socialism is based.

But, it is strange to say that the Socialist parents of Johannesburg are as yet indifferent to this vital necessity upon which the steady progress and ultimate realisation of our ideal is dependent, and the Socialist Sunday School conducted by the International Socialist League is not yet fully availed of by those precious elements of youth whose destiny will be to continue the struggle of the workers emancipation.

The modern educational institutions supported by the Capitalist Class are mainly constituted for the sole purpose of manufacturing efficient wage slaves out of the children of the workers, and unscrupulous self-conceited masters out of the off-spring of the moneyed fraternitity.

The working man's child is taught to limit his aspirations to the low purposes of pleasing his master, and to gain his master's recognition as a valuable profit producing article. But the ambition of the capitalist class children is directed to utilise the abilities and energies of toiling humanity to their own personal advantage.

One is trained to rule, and the other to submit. By this treacherous method the capitalist class intends to immortalise the present degrading, soul-killing system of the subjection of labour.

The aim and object of the Socialist Sunday School is to fight the evil wrought by the capitalist schools upon the responsive minds of the new generation. It is therefore the duty of every Socialist parent to take advantage of every opportunity afforded them to foster higher ideals and more courageous sentiment in the children than the service of their masters. Teach them to love their class, to work for their class, and to bravely remove every obstacle in the way of human progress and civilisation. A few enthusiasts amongst the members of the I. S. L. have undertaken the ambitious task of counteracting the harmful influences of Labour's enemies amongst the young by keeping the Socialist Sunday - Schools going at Durban, Johannesburg and Benoni. Bring the young boys and girlies to the S. S. S.

E. F. G.

Industrial justice and the wage system cannot operate at the same time.

THEY WERE NOT ORGANIZED.

If the fleas had been unanimous they could have pulled me out of ked.——
Charles Lamb.

The Forges of the Nations.

Reproduced by "The Weekly People"

In the forges of the nations, the furnaces still glow. Have they beaten into plowshares all their swords of battle? No. They have welded stronger fetters for the bleeding feet of man. And frampled out his vintage till the purple juices ran.

Clang, clang; do you hear the anvils ringing?
Hush, hush; is there music in their singing
When the sparks that upward fly are the souls of men who die
For a cause they make heroic, and a land they glorify?

They have scaled man's eyes with darkness, have they blinded him for good? They have mocked him as they crowned him with the crown of brotherhood: They have rent his garments from him, they have spat upon his face. Given him a reed for sceptre, till the cross was in its place.

Tramp. tramp; do you hear the armies coming?
Zip, zip; do you hear the bullets humming?
Blood of man must quench the thirst of the lips of death the first,
Ere it trickles to the rulers where they sit enthroned, accursed.

See the bloodhounds of the ocean, how they follow on the trail. Till the seas of sunset redden, and the stars of midnight pale; On the prow the spectral helmsman turns his wheel from left to right, Twenty thousand years of carnage have not sated his delight.

Chug, chug; do you hear the engines throbbing?
Hush, hush, hush; do you hear the billows sobbing?
What is fitter for the brave than a couch beneath the wave.
When they give their lives in battle for a land they cannot save?

But the time is coming, brothers, when men shall reap what they have sown, No power on earth shall bind them, or turn their bread to stone. But a little, oh my brothers, but a little must ye wait, Even now I hear a whisper and a knocking at the gate.

Then rise, rise, all ye men who live to labour!
Up, up, up, go and tell it to your neighbor!
Though you're burdened with the load, though you're bloodied by the goad.
Oh, prepare, prepare to follow, for FREEDOM'S on the road.

"Spread the News

Read the International! Do you know? This is the only workingclass paper in South Africa. While parties looming greater in the Capitalist Press can squeeze money to fight elections, only the I.S. L. has the energy to keep affoat a paper of the workingclass.

Spread the news of it to other workers. Get new subscribers, their names and their subscriptions will be welcome in the fight. If you cannot get subscribers, get names and addresses of likely readers among workingman. We will send them a specimen copy. It will cost you nothing. It will spread the news of Socialism, and of revolutionary Industrial Unionism.

Some Questions of the Week.

On whatery was Wilson re-elected to the American Presidency?

"HR KEPT US OUT OF THE WAR?"
Civilization depended on America keeping out of the war a few
months age, and Civilization depends

upon America butting into the war today. What has made the difference?

The munition plants of Pierpont Morgan are lying idle.

How does President Wilson spell "civilisation,"

INDUSTRIAL CONSCRIPTION.

How can a nation boast of liberty if its individual citizens have not liberty?

Under the wage system all workers have liberty to toil for a boss or starve.

What does "freedom" and "tyranny" mean in the mouthes of capitalist statesmen?

"Freedom" to exploit labour and markets. "Tyranny" of other concerns who want to exploit labour and markets, and interfere with your elbow room to trade. Hence the cause of the American intervention:—The necessity to secure markets. The necessity to hamstring Labour. The necessity to hamstring Labour. The necessity to keep armament shares buoyant in Wall Street.

Have you subscribed to "The International,"

Ss. per annum, post free, Box 4179,

Johannesburg.

Councillor Clark's Expulsion from the League.

The following Secretarial letter to the Branches of the International Socialist League (S. A.) explains the above heading.

"Dear Comrade:

I have to state for the information of the Branches that the Management Committee has been compelled, after serious consideration, to expel Councillor J. A. Clark, M. P. C. from membership of the League.

For the information of the members of the League the facts leading up to the expulsion are as follows:—

Management Committee at its meeting on the 21st March that Mr. J. A. Clark was about to introduce a Draft Ordinance into the Provincial Council on behalf of the Johannesburg and Reef Storekeepers Association providing for the extension of the hours of trading by half an hour, and extending the time allowed on the premises after closing by 15 minutes in Reef Stores.

The M. C. regarded the measure as a reactionary one, and detrimental to the interests of the assistants employed in these Reef stores, and thereupon ordered the despatch of a letter to Mr. Clark requesting him to withdraw the Ordinance without delay. The letter was handed to Mr. Clark personally by myself. The Whip of I. S. L. Caucus in the Provincial Council, Com. J. Forrester Brown, was at the same time informed of the action of the M. C.

On the 22nd the I.S. L. Caucus deliberated on Mr. Clark's Draft Shop Hours Ordinance, along with another Ordinance introduced by Comrade Bunting shortening the trading hours of Butchers Shops. Mr. Clark's Draft Ordinance was unanimously disapproved of by the other five members of the I.S. L. Caucus.

The I. S. L. Whip reported to the Management Committee of the League as follows:

Your letter of the 22nd inst with referen"ce to the amendments to the Shop Hours"
"Act that was being introduced by Comrade
"Clark was duly brought before the Caucus
"of the Party. I desire to inform you that
the following resolu ion was carried: That
"Comrade Clark be asked to with raw his
"motion. Comrade Clark informed them that
"he had no intention of doing so, and duly
"moved the motion to amend the Shop Hours
"Act."

Yours fritercally.

(Signed) J. FORRESTER BROWN

Mr. Clark's motion was seconded by Mr. Dingwall, a Labour Party member. Comrade Wade objected to the introduction of the Ordinance on behalf of the League. (Incidentally, I may mention that the Draft Ordinance was rejected by the Council).

Mr. Clark was asked to attend a meeting of the M. C. held on the 28th March to explain his action. He failed to attend the meeting, and I was instructed to write calling upon him to attend the meeting of the following week to show cause why he should not be expelled from the League. A letter from Mr. Clark, intimating his willingness to attend and give the M. C. reasons for his action, arrived after the meeting took place.

At its meeting of the 4th April -Mr. Clark had a lengthy interview with the M. C, whereat he defended his conduct with regard to the Ordinance. Mr. Clark's main justisication wasthat the M. C.'s action was hasty and illconsidered, and that he did not construe the rule in the constitution giving the M. C. power to instruct members on public bodies as meaning that every request of the M. C. had to be acceded to. With regard to the Caucus decision, Mr. Clark asserted that the Caucus did not give the Ordinance full and due deliberation, and that it failed to show him where his Draft Ordinance violated any Socialist principle.

After serious deliberation later, the M. C. recorded it as its conviction that the reasons given by Mr. Clark were not satisfactory, and passed a resolution that Mr. Clark he expelled from membership of the League.

Having regard to the serious effect of the action of I. S. L. members on public bodies on the good name of the League, and their consequent responsibilities to the M. C. as representing the League, and to the Constitution rule giving the M. C. power to instruct members on public bodies, the Branches will, I have no doubt, support the action of the M. C. in this matter, Fraiernally vours,

D. IVOS JONES, Secretary.

"Recognition," for the

Love of Christ.

The long battle waged by the Transvaal Miners Association, later the South African Mineworkers Union, for recognition by the Chamber of Minos has at last borne fruit. "Recognition' has been accomplished, and at a time when the Society was ulmost at its weakest, both financially and numerically Why is at-that the Chamber conceded the point under this peculiar circumstance?

The Johannesburg Tramwaymen Union is a good object lesson for recognitionists.

Lam prepared to gamble that nowhere in South Africa can be found a body of men, white or coloured, who have more grievances regarding their conditi us of labour than these tramwaymen. I do not think any other body of men would submit so tamely to these conditions.

Why, the Service is one continual grievance, from 5.40 a.m. when the "casual" starts waiting, for a night car may be, to 1.10 am. when he has earned his 12.6 if ne is lucky or after 12 hours of waiting at the yard Mr. Doig kindly tells him he may put in a "day off" card and get 7/6.

I could write a book of grievances on the J. M. T., and they have recognition" good and strong.

In fact so "good and strong" that a man would be better off shoveiling sulphur in Hell than working on the Johannesburg Tram Cars and at loggerheads with the President of the Union. And they are "recognised" by the Management and the "Labour" Tramway Committee.

Condescension such as this is kindly—a nod from Jack Mulvey is a breakfast for a -- motorman.

But it works alright for the boss. you bet. Do you want a rise of wages your officials are against it! Do you wang better hours? "We must think of the publie convenience!", Is a man bullied to desdesperation until he asserts his monthead anderacks an Inspector, fusually promoted for 'services rendered' 1910; 'the service bosses patently must preserve discipline ctc. etc.

"Recognition" is a good gag for the boss---witness the fact that the miners officials—after careful examination of the books, at which job all miners are experts -persuaded their followers that Randfontein would go 'broke' if they maid more of the surplus value out in wages".

Luckily there are a few who have seen through it, and I don't imagine. "recognition" will carry the bosses so very far after all in this country.

Industrial Unionism and to hell with your recognition" is the slogan-who will join in a crack at the earthquake proof building.

THE NIB.

第二二章

International Socialist League (S.A.)

OBJECT: To propagate the principles of International Socialism, Indutrial Guionism and anti-militarism, and to maintain and strongthen international workingclass organisation.

LEAGUE NOTES.

LABOUR DAY.

JOHANNESBURG: Labour came and went with Labour very ! seats and allocate candidates much in the background this year. The Sports of course were patronized by all, including the Mayor, who made a speech doping out southing symp to the workers on their horrowing festival. No one knew during the week what and where the Demonstra. tion was going to be, except by ringing up the Federation. The press kept mum about it, ngither was it anywhere advertised. The Federation printed "The Internationale" in leaflet form to be sung by the crowd. but the Federation officials seemed rather ashamied to give it out. The Federation Band was sent into the street to collect a crowd, which was addressed in front of the Town Hall by the Trade Union organisers.

However, the comrades of the I.S.L. provided the spark of workingclass enthusiasm. Our Labour Day leasset, published last issue, was in

everyone's hands, and The International soid excellently: Comrado Exler, who jestled into the thick of the crowd and, taking no arguments, gave a good account and beat the record. In the afternoon about a dozen comrades were posted outside the sports ground giving out "What are you Puffing your Chest for?" and they were well rewarded for the job by the varying kinds and degrees of hilarity caused by the title among the sportsward bounders.

On Sunday Comande W. Maclean, a veteran in the Rand Socialist movement, delivered the address in the Trades Hall to a full house. The subject was "International Socialism, what it means." Comrade Maclean's address was followed with onthusiastic attention as he went into the great principles of Industrial Unionism. The lecturer deali with the Marxian dislinetion between neminal, real and relative wages and showed how even when real owages, that is their buying newer, have risen, relative wages, that is the value of wages in relation to profits, may sink. And this was the important thin, dwenges it fixed. the social status of the mage-earners. Reforming the wage system would never do. Because the more we biliomred the more capital we caused to accumunulate. We were in a vicious circle wherein no one could wark without adding to the nower which enslaved him.

There was a ively question time, and literature and "Internationals" sold well 11 (13) 1111.

At the meeting in front of the Toryn Hall Comrades Barendregt and Ivon Jones spoke to a good, even responsive erowd. A few interrupters were shouted down by the bulk of the audience. A 2000 -1211.

A public debate has been arranged by the Branch between Comrades J. M. Gibson and A. B. Dunbar, on Thursday next, the 19th instain the Trades Hall, on the burning question "Are vages governed by the law of supply and demand?"

I.S.L. NOTICE.

A COMBINED MEETING OF THE JOHANNESBURG AND BENONI BRANCHES.

with the M.C.,

will be held in the

TRADES HALL

WEDNESDAY, the 25th APRIL

to discuss the deathcoming brovincial Day of Conneil Elections and thally determine

NOTE THE DATE

MAY DAY CELEBRATION A SOCIAL EVENING

TO CELEBRATE MAY DAY will be held in the

Masonic Hall, Jepp: Street, ON MAY 1st. at 3 p.m.

WHEN ALL FRIENDS OF INTERNATION-ALISM WHALL MELLIC

A JOVIAL ENTERGAINMENT IS PROMISED

Tickets 26, from the Head Office, 6 Trades Hall, and members. Benoni: T. Chapman and J. den Bakker. Germiston: Mrs. Colin Wade. H. Glass.

DEMONSTRATION in the open AIR at 6.30 to 7:30 of which more details next issue.

Suggestions for items in the Programma should be sent to Connade Bunting. Convenor of the Programme Committee.