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

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"Baby Week."

It is one of the ironies of life that reforms urged by public-spirited men for years in the face of much abuse have been adopted, in the end, by the ruling classes for ulterior ends. A notable instance is the idea of a League of Nations to prevent war, which has been advocated for years by the leaders of reform in most countries, and is now likely to be adopted by the capitalistic Governments of Europe. To end war? Oh, dear no, it cannot do that; but for the purpose of greater unity in the suppression of the class war, and to prevent the international victory of the working classes. The same fate has befallen the agritation carried on by the socialists and others for years to get the State to provide for the welfare of all children born in that State. It has always been a socialist axiom that the community as a whole should be responsible, and every individual in the community, married or single, parent or childless, should be responsible for the welfare and upbringing of every child born in that community. But for various reasons, chief of which is that the workers have never been sufficient-Is alive to their own interests, this agithition has never taken root, and the result in all countries has been disastrous. The effect of the apathy in this country is plainly seen in the statistics provided by the Director of Census. In, the two years for which figures are available, 1914-5, the number of deaths. of infants below one year was 6,953. In 1916 the proportion of deaths of infants below one year was 86.05. Terrible as is the state of affairs these figures reveal, yet before and after the commencement of the war no general feeling was aroused save among socialists and reformers, to whom they were a striking example of the callousness of capitalist governments to the welfare of its future citizens.

But, as Mrs. McMurray recently stated, the principal causes of this holocaust were bad housing conditions, over-crowding, impure air, low wages, drink and disease—all preventable and all directly traceable to the wage system which is the buttress of present society. One would have thought that it would have been to the interest of the ruling-class to ensure that these infants would grow up healthy wageslaves. The inevitable result of this overcrowding of the labour market would have been the lowering of the rate of wages. But recently things have greatly changed. The "Cape Times' has for weeks devoted columns to the topic of the falling birth rate; and now a "Baby Week" is on the tapis in Johannesburg, Capetown and elsewhere. Lectures are to be given to future mothers on the care and upbringing of infants, and future husbands are to be impressed with the urgent need for more babies. Processions are to be held in the principal streets to impress upon the "luxury-and-ease-loving" wives of the workers the importance of the present campaign. No doubt we shall see notices, somewhat after the tyle of the recruiting notices and placards, such as "Husbands do your duty. The Empire calls for men," or "If you are too old to fight, help to make Baby Week a success. Do it now. The last man will tell."

We can imagine one of the organisers of this campaign calling upon the wife of a worker and giving her an address on "Fuller's Earth and when to use it," and being asked, "Why all this sudden concern for the children of the workers? The children of the poor for hundreds of years have been reared on insufficient adulterated milk and food, with insufficient clothes to keep them warm, in the midst of frightful conditions of degradation and vice. Why all this trouble in wartime?" Should the visitor be quite honest she will bluntly reply: "We need soldiers." Now the cat is out of the bar. This campaign should not be called 'Baby Week.' The concern is not for babies as such. It is for babies as potential soldiers. It should rightly be called "Gun-fodder Week." They need men for the army. No doubt upon the energy of the nation during 'Baby Week" and after depends the strength of that army which will bring victory to the Allies in that "great push" which will end the war "in the spring" of 1.938.

The capitalist class knows that this is not the last war. They know that as long as their rotten system lasts there will always be wars, and they are getting ready now to fight them as they have always so courageously done "to the last-(working) man and to the last (worker's) shilling." In the future war for "Liberty, small nations" (see Lloyd George's speeches), etc., etc., they will rely as they have always done upon the damned foolishness of the workers in providing them with the men and money to fight with. Let the workers organise a "Baby Week" of their own. Huge meetings to be held urging upon the workers to unite to make the future a bright one for their children by overthrowing this rotten system and establishing one in which every child shall be cared for, and in which there will be no female or infant labour. The capitalist is a modern Moloch fattening upon the sweat of women, the blood of infants and the self-respect of men. It is not "Baby Week' we socialists seek to celebrate, but "Treedom Week," which shall see the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the Workers' Commonwealth.

"The Slave Market"

office of the boss, and being curious I listened to what was being said. I heard the following conversation:—

Boss: And is this the first place you have come to?

Stranger: No; I have tried all over this morning, but there is nothing doing. All the shops are full up.

Boss: How long have you been trying to sell this commodity?

Stranger: For six weeks now; I have gone without meals for days, and I'm, weeks behind with my rent. For God's sake give it a chance.

Boss: Have you any papers relating to the quality, etc., of this commodity?

Stranger: I have several. They all testify that it is a smooth working tool. Always obedient to the touch of the owner.

Boss: H'm, that's all right. But the price is rather high. I can get it cheaper.

Stranger: But I am married. God, you don't know what it is to have a wife and child pining for want of foud:

Boss: Tut-tut, no sentiment, please. How old are you?

Stranger: Twenty-five.

Boss: You are very young to be many ried. You should have waited until you could get more for this commodity.

Stranger: Well, won't you give me?

Boss: £12 a month.

Stranger: That will hardly keep is in comfort. Make it £15? We can just exist on that.

Boss: I am sorry, but these are my terms. I will buy the commodity you have for sale, although I could get it cheaper.

Stranger: Yes, single men.

Boss: That is no concern of yours. I have had several men here this morning with the same goods. Take my offer or leave it.

Stranger: Take it or starve. An right, I accept.

Boss: Be here at 8 in the morning, and mind you, everybody here works:

I wondered what was being sold, and on a young man coming out of the office I asked him what he sold to the chief. He looked at me rather angrily and then said with a bitter laugh: I have been in the slave market, haggling with a beast over the market price of my flesh and blood. What did you think I was selling? Hair pine?

(The above conversation with slight alteration can be applied to the sale of woman and child labour, sermons, plays, needles, guns, rubber goods and bibles.)

Manuel.

Disorganisation.

Notwithstanding the new born social conscience and the humanitarianism so glibly repeated by the henchmen in the pay of the capitalist class, and the platitudes printed by the ream in the servile press, the workers are still looked upon by their economic masters as mere machines for exploitation and production of profits. Their status today as heretofore is that of wage slaves without control of the tools necessary to the production of the necessaries of life. And whilst the present profiteering system continues they will remain slaves and never have that freedom that should be the birthright of every unit of society.

To see the misleaders of the workers—"blind leaders of the blind"—(are these leaders so blind? or are they merely pandering to the economic ignorance of the masses?) passing resolutions calling upon the Government to stop profiteering should make the masses realise the futility of their labour leaders, in face of the fact that the cost of living is still soaring, and will continue to soar, for there is no possibility of stopping profiteering under a system of society based upon profits.

I.F. Congress, with the windy rhetoric of the labour leaders, although protested against by a few delegates who had a clearer understanding of the economic structure of society, have failed to realise the dreams of these misleaders. The workers have crawled and crept cap in hand to the Government, humbly praying them to stop profiteering; they have demeaned themselves by asking favours when they should have demanded an increase of wages corresponding to the increase in the cost of living.

based on exploitation lasts, the workers only hope is to organise in such method as will compel the employing class to grant a wage that will enable them to maintain the present standard of life, which is but a mere subsistence, higher or lower, to meet the cost of enabling the workers to exist and produce other workers to take their place when they are scrapped as useless or pass away to where the weary are at rest.

The failure of these humble petitions to stop the rise in the cost of living has gradually dawned upon the workers. The social conscience and humanitarian spirit, so loudly voiced from platform and pulpit and in leading articles in the Press as animating the possessing class, have not resulted in any amelioration of the workers' lot. They are still hewers of wood and drawers of water to an idle parasitic class who must have their profits as usual, or more than usual. But the feeling that they are being exploited is finding expression in a demand for higher wages.

Whilst amongst the rank and file the idea of industrial unionism is spreading, the workers are still saddled with the incubus of officialdom, craft unionism and sectional action.

The federation idea, so loudly praised by its paid officials, has been severely tested by the action of the A.S.E. who, although affiliated with the Federation, have ignored that body and

made their demands as a section. An action such as this shows the inherent weaknesses of any federation of crafts or trade unions. The narrow basis of craft organisations, with their selfish outlook, compel them to ignore the other units of such a federation, prompting them to take advantage of any opportunity that may lend itself to their own selfish interests without any thought of the workers of the other sections.

The disorganisation of such a method as the federation of sectional crafts to combat organised capital is clearly demonstrated by other weaknesses. The A.S.E. on two occasions have ignored the Federation, and incidentally the interests of other workers outside their craft organisation, instinctively acting in accordance with the law that governs and is the basis of their union. Again, the germ of failure is clearly revealed in such a federation by the antagonism animating the craft unions of the carpenters and joiners and the bricklayers towards the B.W.I.U.

The B.W.I.U., whilst not by any means an ideal industrial organisation to combat the employing class, yet aims at uniting all the building workers in one union (white workers only in the Transvaal and Free State), while the older building trade unions are still wedded to the fossilised ideas of the days of the petty industries, overlooking the social evolution that has left such ideas obsolete and unfit to cope with the modern conditions that have grown within the last 30 years, and have become more marked ince the beginning of the war.

To meet the modern conditions created by the growth of capital aid its concentration into comparatively fewer hands, the federation method of craft unions is not organisation but disorganisation and unsuitable to deal with the antagonisms that must necessarily exist in any society based on private ownership in the tools and production for profit. The only sane method is industrial organisation on the broad basis of class irrespective of colour. Class solidarity is the scientific reply to the class solidarity of the capitalist class. The employing class have no line of demarcation to divide them. To them it is profits all the time. Profits are their god, and to get profits they exploit all nationalities and colours. Sentiment never plaved any part in their dealings with the workers in the past. 'No sentiment in business" is one of the maxims quoted freely in the press and literature of the past. It is dropped to-day to give place to the dope of humanitarianism. But the dope won't act, for such a form of society as ours must have a reserve of unemployed and outcusts from within its pale.

Disorganisation is what the present federation of craft unions means. The action of the A.S.E. clearly points the lesson of the disunity of any such grouping. One big union of all the workers, skilled and unskilled, should be the workers' reply to organised capital. Such a union would, whilst our present society lasts, be a fighting organisation to combat capitalism, and would be the nucleus from which would spring the industrial production and distribution of the co-operative commonwealth.

New Men for Old.

The various semi-philanthropic organisations for returned soldiers (or to be more correct the newly-organised industrial reserve army) are now established in South Africa, and will be found to be very useful alongside the extension of economic conscription which is in full force no matter who denies it. (A day or two ago the writer had occasion to sign on a sailor for a ship leaving Port Natal. The following dialogue occurred between the man concerned and the emigration official: "Have you been in the army?"— "No." "Have you tried to join!"-"No." "Do you intend to join!"--"No." On which the official concerned expressed a doubt as to whether the man could be allowed to work.)

The returned soldiers, through their league, are undoubtedly to be used to fill the gaps caused by younger blood and sounder men being forced to the front by pressure from above.

From the employers' point of view the scheme is a good one, and will assist them (the employers) in their historic mission of getting all wages, without colour bars, mark you, down to the subsistence level.

Everyone knows what happened when parish relief of the indigent was tried in Great Britain. How employers took advantage of the fact that a man was in receipt of a dole to reduce his wages in proportion. Everyone knows what has been the lot of the army and navy pensioner in the past, and how his pension from the State was taken into account when calculating his wages. And everyone should be able to see why it is that the employers, as a class, are patriotically in favour of increasing the allowances to returned soldiers.

Provided the war lasts long enough—and heaven forbid that our best customer should die—Henry Dubb will find that his returned soldiers' leagues, etc., have indeed been very useful to his only enemy, i.e., the employing class.

This is the new ethic of the mercantile world. First cripple your man and then pay him less wages because he is a cripple—which of course is only reasonable.

By and by, Henry, you will be a unit of a "crippleised" industrial reserve army and will sit in the balance and help weigh down the active labour army. One need not be a despised "Marxist" to get a glimpse of the effrontery of Mr. Middleman, but one needs to use one's brains to get a grip of the ways of King Kapital himself, which are as crooked as a scab-built fence.

So long as you live in wagery so long will your employer be able to delude you-with his returned soldiers' leagues, democratic parties, Corner House Federations, Governor-General's Funds, Holy Bible, and still holier pocket-book, etc. Once throw off me bonds of wagery and you will need none of these things. When do you go to the barricades?

"SEN YAH."

Donations to the Press Fund are acknowledged from Brakpan as follows:—N.S., 2s. 6d.; M.D., 5s.; M. G. 10s.; M.M., 2s. 6d.; S.C., 2s. 6d.; A.K., 2s. 6d.; T.S., 2s. 6d.; M.L., 2s. 6d.; M.L., 2s. 6d.; M.L., 2s. 6d.; M.L., 2s. 6d.; M.S., 2s. 6d.; M.S., 2s. 6d.; P.C.

2s. 6d.; total, £2 8s. 6d.

J.M.G.

"Self=Reliance."

The greatest tragedy of the modern labour movement is the systematic corruption by the capitalist class of the leaders of labour. Time and time again has a most trusted leader of the workers deserted his class for some Government post of larger pay than work. This is not a phenoménon that can be easily explained by the assertion that all men have their price, or that the workers fail to secure proper control of their leaders. There are other reasons for this behaviour on the part of men who are quite honest in their convictions. Any man who by reason of his ability to organise the workers or to influence them in any way either by his. oratorical or intellectual wifts is subjected to the most poisonous alguse from a corrupt press which systematically misrepresents his views and often deliberately twists his phrases to mean something other than what he intended. This systematic and continuous abuse, coupled with the indifference of the workers, is apt to produce in men's minds congenial soil in which can be planted the seeds of bribery and corruption. Often have men who have devoted their lives and talent to the welfare of the workers been betraved by them or given instances of gross indifference and negligence. As men grow older there is a longing for peace and a weariness of the class-war. Then it is that Governmental offices exercise their most potent lure, and the result is a new labour bureaucrat or labour minister.

The atmosphere of Parliament or any public body is well nigh fatal to the class-conscious labour leader. That man is a creature of his environment is shown by the labour leader speedily losing his revolutionary fervour and his class consciousness in the "superior" class atmosphere of Parliament. The longer do they represent the workers the wider grows the gulf between them and their working-class constituencies. Soon the stage is reached when the labour leader, his convictions changed by the gradual insidious effect of Parliamentary life upon his loyalty, can say, perhaps in all sincerity: "I am tired of this talk of class-consciousness. Social consciousness is what I am out to preach." (Thus Mr. Hodges, Minister of Labour.) This evil is closely bound up with the political system. Workers are asked, once in five years, to vote for a Parliamentary representative over whose actions they have henceforth no control. Whether lie acts in accordance with their wishes or

These facts alone are sufficient justification for the workers to devote their energies to the industrial weapon. It is one of the characteristics of industrial unionism that every stage in the industrial struggle as postulated by it calls for the earnest and decisive action of the whole of the united workers. Both in the every-day battles of the workers and in their ultimate emancipation. industrial action brings out the qualities inherent in every worker of courage and self-reliance. It nostulates the education of the workers in all matters concerning their industrv. and in the art of administration. The goal of industrial unionism is self government in industry, and in this connection it does not call for voters who cast their mandate at the polling

not, he is there for five years.

booth once in five years, but for men—for men who have confidence in their capacity by their united efforts to improve their every-day conditions, and ultimately to emancipate themselves. Delegates in Parliament or craft federations are of no use for that, and in so far as they take the workers' attention from their industrial affairs to Parliamentary Will-o'-the-Wises, they are a positive danger. The painticians cry "Vote for us!" The industrial unionists cry "Be men; emancipate yourselves. Distrust delegates. Control or dismiss your officers."

The slogan of the workers must be that given at Everett last year. The workers of Everett on the Pacific coast of America had issued an appeal to the workers of the neighbouring town of Seattle to take part in a great demonstration against the suppression of the right of free speech. The workers of Seattle, organised by the I.W.W., chartered a vessel and steamed to Everett. They were met on the quay by a gang of armed policemen, citizens and sheriffs, who fired on them, and then arrested 74 of them for attempted inurder. The officer in command called out, "Who are your leaders!" Back in proud defiance came the answer of the I.W.W.: "We are all leaders."

When the united workers of South Africa can, in truth, hurl such a reply to the capitalist class, then they stand on the threshold of emancipation, and are in sight of freedom.

M. LOPES.

Worthy of his Hire.

A white man was dismissed the other day for insolent disobedience, and complained of being treated like a Kaffir. What does he expect? But he got another job soon. A native was dismissed the other day, after five years with the boss, for the same thing; and he too complained of being treated like -a Kaffir. But he is still out of a job, and will remain so, for his boss marked his pass "cheeky and disobedient," so of course nobody will have him; and the law decided recently that a "character" like that, more poisonous and damaging than any white man's discharge, was quite justifiable. Our white man at any rate escaped such a requital of insult by injury.

A native correspondent writes: "Will you allow me through your paper to make known about boys employed in the mines on hand drilling or hammers? Every boy on this work (whatever the duration of his contract) is paid according to what he has drilled on each particular day, provided he drills a certain number of feet. If he is given a hole to drill and fails to complete the prescribed number of inches or feet. he shall be deemed to have not completed his shift, and his work shall not count against the period of service." The boy has done all he could manage on the particular day. His hole is measured by his boss. The company earns money out of that poor hov's drilling, which took him the whole day's labour to do. But he earns nothing, nor does it count against his neriod of service. If he complains he is laughed at. called a loafer, told he, is mad if he thinks to get a shift for

that day. Even if it happens several days running, he gets no sympathy whatever.

"Free under the Union Jack? We are slaves in the country of our birth, whereas the European is free both in his native land and in foreign countries. When the Egyptians enslaved the Jews, God punished them, though the Jews were not in their own country. White men enslave us. Look at the history of South Africa, look at the map of this Holy City of Johannesburg. Its laws are only made for persecuting the natives who erected it.

"Are you people ready yet to free us and give us our full emancipation, freedom in this land of our forefathers and birthright? Since you settled here we have worked for you through summer rain and winter blast. We have enriched you. We have died for your liberty. When are we to get ours? What are you waiting for?"

And the white workers' answer is still that the white man's standard must be protected against the unfair competition (sic) of the native!

We are tired of hearing theorists tell us that the white wage-earner is realty every bit as much of a slave as the black. Our answer to our correspondent is that "we people," most of us, are not ready yet, though we believe we shall soon have to be ready, like the Johannesburg Town Council. Those hammer boys themselves, by combining, can and must win their liberty, if not with the aid of their white fellow workers, then in spite of them.

THE IRISH REVOLUTION.—Com. H. C. Hanscomb will be the lecturer for the Central Branch, in the Palmerston Hall, Commissioner Street, on Sunday next, commencing at 8 p.m.

APPEAL.—The Acting Secretary requests the return of the following book: "Notre Dame."

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The Messina copper mines are atated to have shut down; consequently Messina has shut down; consequently the workers engaged in the mines have been thrown on to the street to look for another job, beg, borrow, steal pr starve while the owners of the mines are free to take a trip to the coast and live sumptuously every day on the profits that the workers have been piling up for them. Do you realise, fellow workers, what a glorious system we live under? Don't forget that in fighting to maintain this best of all systems we are doing so for liberty. Of course we are: the capitalist says so, and we must believe it.

We are glad to hear from Capetown that Comrade W. H. Harrison is out of danger. He will, however, continue unable to assist the movement for some weeks yet.

We much regret, however, to hear that Comrade Ivon Jones is down with a serious attack of fever at Inhambane, where he and Com. Pettersen have heen for the past few weeks. We cannot afford to be deprived, even temporarily, of the support of our stalwarts. But Jones has conquered so many enemies in the past that we have confidence in his power to emerge again triumphant from this ordeal.

What Means this Strike?

Johannesburg has just been "paralysed" by a strike for more wages of a hundred or so fitters working at the Power Station, a vital nerve of the town. Controlling that nerve, they had the Town Council at their mercy, as that body was foolish not technique confenced from the first; and by virtue of this. 'pistol at its throat,' rather than of any exceptionally organised labour power which without the aid of such sabotage" could not have achieved so much, they, like besiegers in war who cut off the water supply, succeeded in inducing a veritable Brest-Littovsk—an abject surrender of the employers and a swift and easy win for themselves. So short is the man in street's memory that the incident is already half forgotten; but there were several features about it of permanent merest.

The first is the rapidity with which a movement of the kind catches on, plinating to a gratifyingly "inflammable" condition of considerable sectheirs of the white working class, at are rate when the weapon available is so powerful as it was in this case. In the power station the artisans of other drafts, who we understand at first refused to join the strike, came out at the eleventh hour. Outside, however, elmost from the outset the other unions were sounded for assistance or rather co-operation, and in reply even the Engine Drivers' Association offered help; and what prevented the idea of a gene ral strike of a number of trades from AGREEMENTS was only the sacred months after the war against every one of which, the A.S.E.'s included, we have protested with all our might.

The other white municipal employees themselves, however, had as such made no agreements; and though we should have liked to see them fight their own battles, and though the 20 per cent. mise secured for them was never contemplated by the strikers in the first instance, but resulted from manaeuvres in the Council by a typical S.A.L.P. politician and a representative of the SAIF. (of all bodies!), and though these manoeuvres were probably dictated by obvious ulterior motives, to sey nothing of the necessity for conceliating an inconvenienced public in favour of strikers earning more than most of the public anyway—yet the fact remains that this suggestion to inelude the lower dogs' claims was readi-In adopted by the strikers, and that when the Council offered to accede to the strikers' own demands only, leaving those of the other employees for later and separate consideration, that bler was (despite some A.S.E. omcialdom) rejected, and the 20 ber cent. all round to uniontots or non-unionists alike, Was made an essential term of settlement. We have heard of the black under dogs, as in 1813, being induced to jointhe top dog's strikes for the latter's benefit; but we recall no previous instance where the top dogs have actually coupled even the white lower dog's olding with their own and carried both to victory. We said "a win for themcolves": but the most notable win was for the others. It may remain a solitery case, but in view of the peculiar if not unnatural circumstances of lab-

our in this country, it may well become a precedent for even greater catholicity to come.

In the brief duration of the strike the role of craft unionism suffered some violence. The beginning of the strike was somewhat on the basis of shop organisation, indeed the criticism has been made that it was improper to seek a gain for the municipal fitters only apart from the town, mine and railway fitters. Then the craft union of the A.S.E. took it up. Logically, the craft Federation should in its turn have stepped in, but this the A.S.E. (largely for personal reasons) resisted—and the S.A.I.F. now wants a Government in-More than this, the strike quiry! meetings, nominally of the A.S.E., eventually merged into meetings of municipal employees in general. A point was made of refusing arbitration by a board of reference, the accepted panacea of the S.A.I.F., although the A.S.E. only recently accepted it on the holiday question, and this time welcomed the idea of a permanent board "to prevent similar occurrences in future" ("no war after this war" as it were)! Through all this confusion we candiscern a vague groping away from craft unionism and federationism, able at best to stop industry, and towards the revolutionary industrial union based on shop organisation, able to carry it on.

So much for the bouquets. Our "eggs" can almost be anticipated by readers of this paper. Beware lest the role accepted by the skilled whites in South Africa under the name of "Labour" or "The Workers" approximate (substituting the union for the individual) to that of the Plebs leaders exposed in "Two Pages from Roman History." Beware lest these concessions or surrenders to the top grades of workers mean no victory of the real proletariat but only a sop to the aristocrats of labour (with whom, significantly enough, the chief engineers, etc., were ranged this time) to become a privileged, property owning caste or hierarchy, willing to scab on and assist in the subjugation of the inferior masses of labourers, especially those with a black skin. True, the bribe is extorted, not offered, for "eapitalism is on its last legs," and must pay dearly for its crutches. Nevertheless the aristocrats are perilously liable to trade on the fact that the bosses must buy them, and then, for instance, to insist on the £8 2s. for top artisans in other trades all round, before any surplus in the shape of the 20 per cent. is allowed to filter down to the municipal lower dogs, such as the white day labourers—although the cost of living has risen equally against these (and black labourers) also. The existence of any labourers other than white was studiously ignored at the strikers' meetings, nor was any attempt made to explain the gap between native and even poor white" wages which help so powerfully to keep the latter down. Our persistent advocacy of industrial unionism for South Africa has meant not that artisans merely should unite by industry instead of craft, but that the crux is to organise and include the very bottom dog, the native working class. The old notion that the Labour Movement is carried on from the top is not borne out; probably it is just that top-heaviness, with all the labourfakery, place-hunting and petty bourgeois reformism it involves, that has caused its comparative failure to date. Modern experience indicates that the social revolution is the work of the oppressed mass above all, and every limited, high-grade strike tends to obscure that truth and to weaken the grasp of true solidarity. Salvation for all lies only in the ONE BIG UNION of all grades, colours and crafts.

As for the objective of the strike, the daily Press suggests that this is no time for "labour unrest." We on the contrary say: By all means get more wages whenever you can, whether to meet increased living costs or as the alleged absolute value of your labour (!) (though it seems questionable to base a claim for 12s. on loss of the overtime worked elsewhere): but these are times where far greater prizes are within your reach, when your sledgehammers should crush something bigger than fleas, when 'Labour control'. must be ambitious enough to control. the capitalist militarist kaisers of the world to-day, to stop their bloody war and enforce their abdication. For that revolutionary goal—for Bolshevism, FOR THE RED FLAC HOISTED BY THE MUTINEERS AT KIEL AND CATTARO—even for a decent rise in the real labourers' pay, or for a clearcut industrial union—the paralysis of Johannesburg, ave and of South Africa, would indeed have been worth. while! Just as the old forms of union, so the old aims of labour must be revised and overhauled to meet the miraculous extension of modern capitalism's world-wide power. To-day nothing less is worth aiming at than the ONE BIG OBJECTIVE.

BENONI INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTORS' UNION.—A meeting was held last Friday at the Judaean Social Club Hall, with Gershaw as chairman and A. B. Dunbar as chief speaker. From 80 to 100 were present, and a lot of new members were enrolled. Lively discussion followed a lecture on "Industrial Unionism." To-night a meeting is being held at the same place, when Com. Orenstein will lecture on "Industrial versus Political Action." It is to be hoped that all sympathisers will soll up in force to make it a success.

ONLY ONE MONTH.

The Management Committee announce that in connection with the Marx Centenary, they are prepared to sell, at a fraction over cost price, for one month only, a number of enlargements from a photo of

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