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INTERNATIONA

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P.O. BOX 4779.

Neppe's Buildings, 54, Fox Street, Johannesburg.

Phone 6035.

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The Darkest Blot of all,"

Last week we described Magistrate Macfie's appeal to the S.A. Industrial Federation to join the Defence Force to deal with "native unrest." Since then the Federation, represented by Messrs. J. Forgester Brown and A. Crawford. has actually seen Ministers and volunteered to raise "Labour" Battalions for use in case of a native "rising" or rebellion, and the only point now to be settled is the terms of attestation, which must exclude service in "industrial di-putes''--that is, white men's only. We have criticised the Federation till we were sick of it; but in our most bitter dreams we never imagined that it could sink to so disgraceful a depth of treachery to the proletariat as this—five years to-day since the massacres of Commissioner Street, and barely a week ince British labour repudiated its truce with the Government. And no doubt the more class traction conscious among 1110 union duwes will be fobbed of with a specious story about capturing the Desence Force for Labour; and Russia will be cited, forsooth, to show that the working class revolution can only succeed when the workers are armed; the truth being that it can only succeed when the army is Bolshevised and thus no longer a tool, as these precious labour thugs, once in Government uniforms, will of course be, in the hands of the ruling class.

Such is the corrupting influence of false labour organisation, of labourfakirdom, of miseducation, of capitalist flattery and bribery, of sectional and colour pride and prejudice, that even Forrester Brown, a former war-onwarite, whose name still nominally figures on the membership roll of the I.S.L., and who has many a time spoken on platforms for the organisation of the native workers and their solidarity with the white workers, is now a leader in this deputation to Ministers at Pretoria. Talbot Williams now seems also to have bowed the knee to Baal.

More literally than we could ever have suspected, Jack London's famous prophecy of the favoured unions and their role in the class struggle is com-

ing to be realised.

But we shall not share the pessimism of the "Iron Heel." Events are moving too rapidly in all the industrial countries of the world for that. This war, which Engels, Marx' collaborator, foretold as the usher of the social revolution, will prove indeed a war for liberty and justice. The end is in sight, though the Federation Black Hundred exhaust their ammunition in a pogrom of their unskilled fellowworkers. And when the end comes, their treachery will be neither forgiven nor forgotten, for they have degraded labour's escutcheon with the most sin-

The Hidden Hand.

Coupling Botha's alarmist manifestoes with the indications in the Press, we can only conclude that a deliberate plot, after long incubation, is at last to be hatched to exterminate socialism in this country, the method used being to give it out that German gold has been discovered at the back of L.S.L. propaganda, that it is inexpedient in the "public interest" to publish the details, and, (that is the object of the reference to Ireland) that under the circumstances of the time the "leaders" of the socialist movement, and in particular those who have had any part in the education of native workers in their position as part of the workingclass, may justifiably be imprisoned, probably without trial. If the Government is premided to try such theatercal coups, this paper may be temporarily affected: and so we will bucke some statements which, if the authorities dened her a trial, would be made

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And drat, of course, as to General gojal: Ellistilli, we are included has been placed at the disposit of the League. e pecially for leaflets to course disalierdida among the natives. The only butlet addres ed to natives with which the League or members of it have ever been concerned cost £5 to print (paper included), and this £5 was, if we remember rightly, advanced in driblets as it could be collected, by the Johannes-. burg Central Branch of the League (whose precarious funds are made up of members' monthly subscriptions) to the "Industrial Workers of Africa," a little body of native students of socialism which has from time to time, at its own request, been addressed by members of the League on the elementary principles of the working-class movement. This body considered the leaflet as its own undertaking, and assumed liability for repayment of the £5; it actually collected about £2 from the hard-earned pence of its members, and attempted to raise the balance by holding a concert last March, about which the "Sunday Times" gave details obviously extracted from the minute book to which spies, known to us, had had. access.

When the African Political Organisation (of coloured men) published Talbot Williams' speech of January last, a sub-committee of the I.S.L., who happened to have been appointed to draw up propaganda pamphlets, were so struck with the speech that they decided to reprint it, subject to the excision of one or two passages of which they did not approve, for general circulation, provided funds could be raised. A spurt was made to raise these funds. but though a few reams of damaged paper were just then presented to the League by an old comrade who had bought it for a song as useless for orister bar ever known in all the world- dinary purposes, the reprint has hung keep the

respect of it. The total cost to date is under £5.

As for the general finance of the League, Col. Creswell ence remarked that he wished the Labour Party were capable of the same sacrifices as the I.S.L. made. He may well wish, but the difference lies in the inspiration which every socialist draws from not only the righteousness but the certain historic inevitableness, clarified a hundred times since the war, of his cause in every country, enemy, neutral, allied or what not. After all, even these racrifices of our local comrades pale miserably by the side of the incredible devotion, for many years past, of our comrades in Russia and elsewhere, who not only gave up all hope of a career or even a living, but cheerfull: faced Siberia or death, for the cause. Had the læague received at all equivalent offerings from its less impoverished membeis, some of whom hail from Russia, its activities might well have been multiplied. As it is, its struggle to meet expenses, and especially to keep up this paper, has been so meessantly hard and auxious, nay critical, that our treasurs. ers have forgotten what it was not to he in deld. We have never been able to command anything like the income per head of an ordinary trade union. but with the cheerful mites of nembers, sympathisers and readers all over Africa, the proceeds of entertainments periodically held by our noble Women's Committee, and the occasional donations of a few better off supporters, sometimes amounting to £1 a month, we have just managed—and that is the best that any true socialist paper ever does-to keep going.

Such then is the "enemy gold" which a Government itself Boloist insinuates has bribed men who we sometimes think are the only incorruptibles in the country to "embarrass the Government." "Enemy" gold, yes, we are enemies, not of this precious Government in particular, for we care not a. jot whether Botha, Hertzog, Smartt or Creswell is in power, and wouldn't lift a finger to embarrass one for the sake of another of them; but enemies of the whole economic system of to-day which "even their own prophets" like Furse denounce but know not how to cure, for they cannot or will not discern the struggle of the classes or apply the economic reading of history which makes the march of events intelligible only to a socialist.

DANCE.--Comrades and friends are reminded of the dance to be held tomorrow night (July 6th) at Professor West's Academy, 125, Pritchard St., commencing at eight o'clock. There cannot be any excuse for non-attendance at this function; the tickets are being sold at a nominal figure: Gents. 2s. 6d., ladies 1s., and the Entertainment Committee can be relied on to keep the affair up to the usual stan-

The Strike.

To hear this raving talk of insidious socialist intrigue, one would imagine that a strike of native workers, almost an everyday occurrence in one place or another where any special grievance exists, was unknown, and inexplicable without a crude hypothesis of Boloism'; that the example of white men's strikes, and in particular of the Power Station exploit, would be totally lost upon hative workers, even municipal ones; that the strike weapon had never been thought of outside "Federation Hall''—or the Government service, by the way—whereas its adoption has for years past (we hear) been mooted at native congresses, and a threat of it to Botha contributed very directly to the withdrawal of the Native Affairs Administration Bill, not to mention that blacks struck with whites in 1913. One would suppose that the sanitary sentence caused only feelings of servile sulmission, and none of protest and indignation, among the fellow workers of the sentenced, "boys"; and that to feel the pinch of extortionate living costs was a sentiment to which the white breast might legitimately respond, but to which the black mind was impervious but for the sinister suggestions of pro-Germans! Do not these people read their newspapers, and gloat over the strike news from Austria and Germany? Have they forgotten the strikes in England even, yes strikes of

patriots in the midst of the war? Now, the I.S.L.'s conscience, if indeed it were a matter of conscience, is absolutely clear on the subject of this strike. Their general teaching to the few natives who have listened to them has been to expound to them the nature of the wage system, which Col. Creswell bewails but thinks should not be explained to blacks—who realise its. meaning in their own lives better than he will ever do in his ("He hath hidden these things from the wise and the prudent and revealed them unto habes"); to impress them the necessity, admitted frankly by the "Star," of organisation of the proletariat as such, irrespective of colour, to achieve its emancipation; to correct the error, encouraged by reactionary spirits in the S.A. Native National Congress, of supposing that their position is simply that of blacks as such oppressed and exploited by whites as such, and to point out that the white workers in other countries have been and still are oppressed and exploited in exactly the same measure, ves and that black masters do the same by black servants here; to denounce therefore all appeal to racial animosity or division; and (this has been dinned into them until they are tired of hearing it) to urge that on no account chould they ever give the Government any excuse for meeting them with force, although of course it was notorious that the Government, that is the ruling class, would not hesitate to use force against them even without an excuse; but that on the contrary any violence on their part would mean defeat. and that their strength lay only in solid class conscious organisation as workors, and as a part of the world wide labour movement.

The sanitary boys' strike was quite maknown to any white socialists until They read of it in the papers. After

Macfie's sentence, it seems that the Native National Congress did the most natural thing in the world, namely call a meeting of protest which events have amply justified, and at which a motion hinting a strike failing redress was carried rapturously. The congress officials invited members of the I.S.L. Management Committee to this meeting, and some went, and ridiculed the idea of attempfing a strike when they were unorganised. The indignant spirits of the meeting decided to "organise" accordingly, but nothing was done in that direction, and whenever any of our speakers attended any of the numerous native indignation inceting. that followed they pointed out the unripeness of the native workers of the Reef for a strike, seeing that they were still absorbed with racialism and that it would mean much patient education and organisation before they could successfully exercise their strength as a class. As our readers know, this, paper took the same line. Eventually the natives called off the strike proposal: but owing to certain mines locking their natives up in compounds, these heard nothing of the calling off, and downed tools on Monday. As for wiolence, the petty glass-breaking was most probably the work of agents provocateurs, to give the semblance of a "riot" to the proceedings—a very poor reflection of our Federationists' riot of 1913. The rest of the violence, the horse and foot, the rifles and maxims, the police with ball-cartridge, the arrests and convictions—these were all on the other side —the side of the real "barbarians."

Of course we are not apologising. A great: 'forward movement' of the native and white proletariat is inevitable in the near future, and we have done and are doing all we know to help it on. Perhaps, after all, it is a pity that a general strike was not allowed to mature. It will come anyhow some day. Nor must the "probation" period be exaggerated. Solidarity is natural to natives and their position as bottom dogs needs little teaching to bring home. The movement is coming quickly, in time to participate in the coming general overthrow of capitalism precipitated everywhere by the war; indeed the fall of capitalism in this country will take just that form of the emancipation of the native wage slaves, co-operating with the class conscious white wage slaves. It is because the ruling class see this coming that they adopt their monstrous panic tactics, from which they will, as heretofore, be obliged in the long run to withdraw in shame and ignouiny.

The industrial proletariat of South Africa need no "agitators"; their own agitation is spontaneous and natural, and will be unaffected by deporting a few socialists. The advice of socialists well versed in the labour movement enables them, however, to avoid some pitfalls and fallacies and speeds up their ultimate success at the cost of the minimum of "trouble," yes even to the exploiting class, who, without that advice, had better look out for squalls. Note finally that it needed a strike, abortive as this one was, to convince the "public" that even natives are "entitled" to more pay, and intend to get it.

Many of America's "first million" are blacks, who have been cheered in the echo in the streets of London.

"The Burning Question."

It is amusing to read reports of capitalist agents appealing to the workers to think for themselves. This extraordinary appeal generally goes forth in times of industrial trouble. On Mouday, Mr. Cook advised the mine natives to think for themselves. The whites have also been asked to think of the consequences of a demand for increased wages. They are told that the cost of producing gold has increased enormously and that the value of the commodity has not gone up.

The value of gold has not increased, as these gentlemen declare; it requires a similar length of time to produce an ounce to-day as it did in pre-war days. The whole bone of contention is that an increase in wages means a decrease in profits. Mr. Crawford has devoted a certain amount of energy to deterring the white mine workers from demanding more wages. But the key of the situation has passed out of his hands,

owing to the natives' request for a rise m pay.

The capitalists are using the threat to close down the low grade mines. The workers are given the choice of a number of them being thrown out of work or seeing their standard of living visibly declining. Not being behind the scenes, as some people appear to be from their definite assertions, it only lies in our power to study the position from as many points of view as possible.

The mint will give £4,672½ for 1,200 oz. of 22 carat gold. The only difference between the £ s. d. and the ounces is that one is in the form of bullion and the other in coinage. The two quantities if placed on a scale will balance each other.

The question now arises is it possible to increase the price. It is quite obvious that to raise the mint price would mean that old sovereigns would be melted down and sold at the in-

creased rate.

Suppose, however, that the Imperial Government allowed a subsidy to the mine owners on every ounce of gold produced, like for instance the subsidy allowed to the bakers in England today. Then again we see State railways, etc. Now railways are undoubtedly an important factor in capitalist society, and as gold plays an important role, why not State mining? It seems absurd to imagine the rulers of society standing by while their economic system is being turned unside down.

Some of these low-grade mines, it is said, do not pay dividends. At first sight it seems hard to think of an investor continuing such an investment. But when we realise that such investors may have interests in the engineering firms who supply these mines with riaterial it is quite possible for such a thing to happen. There is also manipulation on the Stock Exchange. This is undoubtedly a great inducement to stock holding.

With the rising cost of living it seems almost certain that the workers will demand a rise in wages. It also seems certain that every effort will be made to continue the working of the mines. It will not matter to the workers what method is adopted. They will be robbed by the master class, until they rise and overthrow capitalist society.

Misleading Tactics.

Those who accept what is called the "step by step" process to socialism, and spend their energies in advocating nationalisation of the productive forces of capitalism as State or municipal enterprise, always land themselves and their followers in a cul-de-sac. If they have the clearer vision of the ultimate development of the present capitalistic system to the labour republic, it sooner or later is obscured or obliterated by the tortuous tactics that must necessarily be adopted, and their energy is expended in following the shadows of collective ownership by advocating a process of economic development which. (to the student who cares to go below the surface of capitalistic production, and by doing so gain a knowledge of the economic forces operating in the capitalistic system) shows the futility of individual or sectional efforts to forward or retard the inevitable movement towards concentration of capital.

Mr. Archie Crawford has acknowledged himself to be one of these shadow chasers in his statement before the Municipal strike enquiry, and such an acknowledgement explains the source of the mental kink that has led to his compromising tactics in the antagonism between the capitalistic class and the working class, tactics that lead him with childlike simplicity to ask the workers to be sports, to play the game with a class that has never learned to be lenient, but has always used its power to crush the worker when its class interests or profits were imperilled by the slightest demand of the wor-

A so-called social conscience is reputed to be animating the capitalist class, and finding expression in joint boards, conciliation and round table conferences, at which the employing class are assumed to have placed all their cards on the table "to discuss them fully, fairly and openly, and try and recognise organised labour as a partner in industry." Partnership with the capitalist in industries—a one-sided partnership, with one class in possession of the economic forces of production and the

onomic forces of production and the other class dispossessed and dependent upon the possessing class for the privilege of using these forces, the tools of production, in return receiving but a bare subsistence wage! Mutual interests—in a system of society based on the exploitation of human beings for the production of profits. No, Mr. Crawford, these profit-mongers dare not lay all the cards on the table; and for

lay all the cards on the table; and for you to expect to do so is, well, an error on your part, and slightly out of joint with your statement where you imply your belief in the class war: "Profits

vs. wages.

kers.

"History teaches us that we never go back." That is quite correct.: We have had apparent retrogression in all phases of society, but the economic forces swept them aside and marched on, and the movement that is hailed by Mr. Crawford as "a new phase in evo-Intion" is a movement that has no justification in economic development; it is a mere passing phase engineered by the capitalist class to stay the evolutionary process and retard the inevitable downfall of the system. It is a phase that is not social but sectional, and must break down as all sectional movements must that attempt to establish themselves on fantastic theories

such as emotionalism or humanitarian ideas, which it is too much to grant are animating the capitalists as a class. An individual capitalist here and there may be animated by a new born feeling of emotion for humanity, but as a class the system compels them in the interest of their god profit to be antagonistic to those from whom they reap that

profit.

The step by step socialists, in their efforts to gain slight reforms, lose sight, if they ever knew it, of the law of capitalistic development formulated by Marx, and proved by the development of the system during the latter portion of the 19th century, and especially since the beginning of the present war. Marx pointed out that one of the inherent qualities of modern capitalism was the tendency of the larger capitalistic producers to concentrate their capital, to group together, for the purpose of crushing their opponents in the struggle for the world's markets. This concentration was forced upon the capitalists. In their own interests they were compelled to combine their resources or be crushed, as many of the smaller capitalists have been who attempted to stand aloof.

We have the best example of the grouping together of capitalistic interests in the mining groups upon the Rand. To conserve their interests the different groups of mines have come together under practically one control. The Robinson group was the last to come in, and although J. B. Robinson has denied that there was any coercion, yet we remember that J. B. some years ago was worsted by the bir financial interests in an endeavour to raise a loan

This war, in addition to bringing about greater combination of capital, has introduced State control and State capitalism under which the workers are feeling the lash of greater oppression than before, and is widening the outlook of the workers, especially in Bri-

The step by step advocacy is a treacherous policy, in that it holds out to the workers hopes that are impossible of realisation under the wage system. It is hypocritical inasmuch as it places the advocates in the position of having promised more than can be fulfilled. It leads them to advise the workers to cringe cap in hand to the governing class to stop profiteering, knowing, or if not knowing then culpably ignorant, that a system based upon profits cannot stop profiteering without committing economic suicide.

As the economic development evolves, the rising consciousness of the workers perceives the fallacies of such tactics. Their consciousness grows more rapidly than that of their leaders, who get hopelessly entangled in the meshes of compromise and acquire a blurred and distorted vision of the psychology of the social movement that renders them useless in the working class movement, more especially if they lend themselves to schemes attempting to stay the evolutionary economic force.

The working class movement will grow and have a clearer view-point as the capitalistic system develops its inherent contradictions. These contradictions grow more pronounced as the system hastens towards its downfall. We scientific socialists have no schemes to hasten the concentration of capital. We have no palliatives to offer the dispossessed. We leave such misleading

tactics out of our sphere of activities, as being uncless and mischievous. We see the historical process that has operated in past phases of society, and recognise that the same process, operating to-day, is compelling capitalistic society to be its own grave digger.

J.M.G.

Chinese Logic.

Capitalist commercialism lowers everything in life to the sordid basis of buying and selling. Nothing is sacred or secure from the clutches of its cupidity. It reckons that thing good which will bring a profit in pounds, shillings and pence, and that bad which will not bring such profit. It makes hired hostages of men who will subordinate their talents and their lives to the making of profits, and marks for its vindictive persecution the men who refuse to sell their souls and betray humanity for its unclean pieces of silver. It bargains basely with the devil in men, and crushes cruelly the divine in men. Its heaven is reserved for those who help to make the world a hell, and its hell is reserved for those who would make the world a heaven. And so long as the wage system in any shape or form continues this will hold

We have been assured that the wage system might be abolished by craft combinations of workmen continually obtaining, by their solidarity, higher and higher wages, until at last the rate of wages would reach a point where where production of commodities would cease to be profitable to the capitalist. Then would the whole profit system break at its base and come tumbling about the heads of the ruling class. That important epitome of "Capital," "Value, Price and Profit," contains a very valuable exposition or the same idea; but where your mere political reformer seizes upon ône small part of the argument, Marx himself merely uses it to show that agitations for rises in wages tend toward the real and final consummation, i.e., ownership and control of all industries.

So long as a small portion of mankind are allowed to keep the mass in servitude and to retain control of all the means of life, any rise of wages, no matter how high, can easily be regulated so that the possessing class can continue the operation of their profit system.

The whole argument illustrates very clearly the fundamental difference between craft unionism as we know it and industrial unionism such as we should like to see established.

On the one hand an attempt by the robbed class to escape pillage while still preserving at their head the brigands; on the other the sweeping away of the brigand entirely, after which no particular class would exist, and robbery, in the form of exploitation, would be impossible.

SEN YAH.

EXACTLY

Washington, Tuesday. — A resolution has been introduced in the House of Representatives authorising the Government to take over the control of telegraphs and telephones.

It is understood that this action has been taken to prevent a threatened strike of the employes of one of the great telegraph systems.—Reuter.

Capital and Labour.

"At 7.15 a.m. the boys gave a big shout that they wanted more money. A display of force was made by a body of mounted police and... all the boys were at work by eight o'clock." Or again: "The boys said they were just asking for money. Mr. Taberer said, 'You do not need to be armed for that,' and they laughed. Mr. Cook urged them to return to work. They still refused, and said he could kill them if he liked, but they would not work until they got his promise. More police were continually arriving, and at about 3.30 p.m. the military also arrived. The police charged the boys and they dispersed. Eventually the police gat the boys back into their rooms, and soldiers with fixed bayonets were placed at every room door." How does the formula run again? "A war for the liberty of oppressed-people, a war to abolish militarism and the rule of brute force, a war to replace the will to power' by the rule of right," etc., etc.

The capitalists can see what is afoot more clearly than some of our "Labour" orators. Take these cuttings from the current American bourgeois press:

"The inability of any human being to foretell the direction, scope, or final nature of the socialist movement has convinced many thinkers—that democracy had better be on guard against a foe even more formidable—than autocracy. The striking statement has been made, indeed, that autocracy's end having been decreed by a world capable of executing its decree, the real war is now between democracy and socialism."—"Washington Post."

"They (the socialists) demand a government solely of the proletariat, in which automatically all property owners shall be ruled out. This programme includes the complete overthrow of the existing economic order, and if carried out, would result in a reign of terror. The world may well shrink from the terrible picture." Leslie's

Weekly."

The togt boys of Durban, who have been getting 3s. a day, held a meeting recently at which they decided to ask for 5s. A deputation met the Mayor, with a number of employers, when it appeared that their employment was exceedingly intermittent and sporadic, and it was stated that they could not come out on 3s. "The Mayor told the deputation it had made out no case for an increase, and that natives, in common with Europeans, would starve if they did not work." The view has been expressed, adds the "Mercury," that the trouble which recently arose on the Rand has made its influence felt in Durban. As a matter of fact all the industrial centres in the Union have been standing to arms this week against the iniquitous and pro-German idea that the workers, except certain privileged whites, should dare to suggest a rise in view of the increased cost of living. The bosses are simply tingling for Mome Gorge again, but this time in the towns among the industrial workers.

The competition between Centrals and Allieds for the honour of suppressing the Bolsheviks (either directly or

through Polish or Czecho-Slovak Nationalists) becomes keener every day, and not even the familiar contradictoriness of the cablegrams about Russia avails any longer to conceal this incipient Holy Alliance. Kerensky pleads for the counter-revolution, which is admittedly inseparable from the movement to restore the Tsardom; and so the fight against autocracy becomes a fight for autocracy.

At last Sunday's "anti-strike" meeting in Johannesburg, a number of natives were seen wearing I.S.L. badges. Many of the wearers were recognised as C.I.D. boys. The inference is obvious. The same is probably true of the tearing up of the Union Jack, humorously described by the "Mail" as evidencing a desire to secure a shred of the sacred cloth for a patriotic memento. Class conscious workers know that the tearing down of one capitalist flag in favour of any other carries them not a step further: but agents provocateurs know what capital can be made out of such an incident.

That wages represent the cost of keeping the labourer alive was well illustrated by the case of the strikers who wanted Is. more per day, and said they didn't get enough to eat. (The magistrate called for expert medical evidence as to whether their ration was enough to keep them going or not. If it was, then strafe them for wanting more than "subsistence level." A horse, cow or pig fares better. Capitalism/evidently plans replacing the wage system by the rationing system.

JEWISH SPEAKING BRANCH NOTES.

LECTURE.—On Sunday next, July 7th, Comrade J. J. Hornstein is to lecture on "What means this strike?" The Palmerston Hall is the meeting place and the hour 8°p.m. The lecture will, of course, be in Jewish.

The well-known socialist educator and Bolshevik consul, John Maclean, is again in gaol, this time for five years, a sentence out-Prussia-ing Liebknecht's: such is Britain's professed friendship for Russia. But the war-lords are too late to kill the scientific propaganda he founded in Glasgow. It is already over a year since Lloyd George got such a reception there as the Rand natives give to Taberer or Dower; and Glasgow is twice as revolutionary to-day. The loss of such a comrade is serious enough, but nowaday's all such victims are solacing their captivity by reflecting on the incredible advance they will find everywhere when they come out. In fact, Maclean, if he survives at all, will not have to wait five years for his gaol delivery.

The slimy insinuations of our Press as to the motives of socialists should be compared with this cutting from "Germania," a Berlin "Centre" paper said to represent Hertling's views, of February 5 last. It condemns the strikes which "the enemies in East and West have set in motion against us with gold and with resounding international pacifist-communistic catchwords."

Cape Notes.

The "Industrial Socialist League" filled the Empire Hall, Hanover Street, Capetown, on Sunday afternoon, the 23rd ultimo, with a working-class crowd "irrespective of sex, creed, colour or grade," addressed by Comrades Connolly, Pick, Davidoff, Dryburgh and Berman, with Com. Wrafter in the chair, all of whom dwelt on the necesity for industrial organisation and the inefficiency of trades unionism either to maintain the standard of living of the workers or to abolish capitalism. The meeting closed with the singing of the "Red Flag" for the first time in Capetown, it is believed, since the war began. Over a score of new members were enrolled, and it was announced that meetings will be held every Sunday henceforward at 5 p.m. at the corner of Hanover and Stuckeris Streets.

The constitution of this (non-political) league includes some familiar passages which can nevertheless be repeated with advantage at the present juncture. Here are some extracts:—

"The rapid gathering of wealth and the centring of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands make the trades unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class, because the trades unions foster a state of things which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. The trades unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interest; in common with their employers.

changed, and the interests of the working class upheld only by an organisation formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry—or in all industries, if necessary—cease work whenever a strike or lock-out is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

"Objects: The abolition of the wage system; and the establishment of a socialist commonwealth based on the principles of self-governing industries, in which the workers will work and control the instruments of production, distribution and exchange for the benefit of the entire community.

Rules: Members of the league who are eligible for membership of an industrial organisation must join such organisation, provided its constitution is approved of by the league.

"No member of the league shall continue to work during the progress of a strike in his trade, provided such strike is not antagonistic to the principles of the league."

Competition is the life of trade and the death of the worker.

Reformers would regulate the robbery, revolutionaries would abolish it.

Never go to the capitalist press to in the hands of the ruling class.

It is a brutalising sin to box, but to shoot working men is a work of piety and civilisation.

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