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# THE INTERNATIONAL

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

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# Unconscious Social Movements.

All movements that have transformed societies in the past have been unconconscious, that is, the unrest created by the development of the new economic forces, led to demands by the possessors of these forces for an increase of political powers and reforms within the system without any consciousness that the seething unrest and desire to alter the superstructure built upon the older economic means and methods of production, would lead to the dissolution of the old form of society and give place to a new superstructure built upon the newer economic forces.

The mass of the rising class had no consciousness of the ultimate result of their acts of antagonism against the possessors with whom they were in conflict. Their demands were for reforms not the abolition of the obsolete form of society that was out of joint with the new economic forces. But as the process of development proceeded and the antagonistic interests became more marked, so their demands increased until ultimately they were forced to revolutionise society in their own

So to-day we see the same unconscious movement. The masses instinctively acting without rhyme or reason, the economic forces in their development causing them automatically to increase their demands for better conditions of labour. Rising cost of living being countered by demands for increased wages. A growing feeling of the injustice of the present system of

interests.

creased wages. A growing feeling of the injustice of the present system of society side-tracked for the moment by palliative schemes of reforms such as 'mutual interest associations,' national alliance of employers and employed, co-partner schemes, peace in industries conferences, comradeship between employers and employed, joint boards and a dozen other schemes to perpetuate our present system: conflicting schemes without any cohesion issuing from different groups of capitalists, some maintaining the wage system has stood the test of times, others admitting it wants amending. Yet permeating all the confusion and never lost sight of by the possessing class is the outstanding principle that profits

These schemes may serve to allay the unrest, but for a short period only. They do not generally where put interaction operate except through the trade unions that are but a section of the workers in any industrial country. The percentage of workers in the unions is higher to-day than ever before, yet in Britain out of eighteen million workers but four million workers are organised in trade unions.

must be maintained.

The possessing class are "between the devil and the deep sea," and if

there was no other evidence, these conflicting schemes to solve the riddle of how to continue the profit system, to the shallowest mind should be convincing

The problem of gold production on the Rand continuing to be profitable is more complicated than the production of other commodities. It is the main industry in South Africa. Many of the mines are, even with the high cost of producing, paying handsome dividends such as 60 and 50 per cent. The 17 non-paying mines that are threatened to be closed down must be a nightmare to the small investors who still hold the shares, as we may take it for granted the big financiers have sold out long since,

These seventeen mines by the figures supplied by the mining officials are not making any profit, of course these figures do not take into account any fictitious capital that may have been saddled on to the original capital, not yet do the controllers put "all the cards on the table" for the information of the public, and let them into the secret of the manipulation that takes place in their scheming to gull the small investor.

Gold—the commodity produced by these mines has been fixed by the possessing class at £ 4s. 10d. per ounce: it may fluctuate a penny above or below that figure. As money it is used as the most convenient commodity to serve as the standard measure of price of other commodities. But owing to the complex nature of our present system of society, and the undoubted fact that the economic forces that operate as the basis of the system not being under the control of the capitalist class to order as they please, they are faced with the problem of rising costs in production that will either force them to close down or continue producing at a loss. The unrest created amongst the workers on these mines by the economic development is giving expression in demands for increased wages. It suits the possessing class to charge agitators as being the cause of these demands. The agitating cause is economis pressure owing to the rising cost of living.

These demands on the part of the workers are not reasoned out demands to consider the preservation of profits for the shareholders of the mines, but demands forced upon them by the profiteering of those in control of the necessaries of life, and are made to preserve to them the standard of living they consider necessary.

Humanity in the mass never reasons. As a class whether capitalists or workers the economic forces create the psychology that determine their actions. These actions may be diverted along wrong lines, but only for a short period, as the evolutionary process in society determines the ultimate issue, and decides the struggle in favour of

the class who are destined to carry on society in its new form.

To the superficial student of the problems that confront society this may appear like a form of fatalism. "A dismal doctrine" that seeks to lower the dignity of the human race, by showing human society to be governed by sordid delfish interests, without any of the dignity so much prated of by the moralists and emotional reformers who in their efforts to heal the festering sore of society fail to see that the foundations of the system is a cesspool of foulness, that requires not palliatives but a radical change that will remove those festering sores, those antagonisms that are inevitable in a system based upon greed and grab.

An understanding of the economic forces that determine the future social system and co-ordinating our efforts towards that goal prevents the wandering after illusive reforms and keeps those in the narrow path that leads to the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth. A knowledge of these economic foundations gives rational basis to our actitivities, instead of a pessimistic fatalism that leads to inactivity.

It is too much to expect that this consciousness of the economic forces that have transformed societies in the past and will change our present, will permeate the mass. Yet as the time approaches when that change becomes inevitable the psychology will be created that will compel the masses to act in their own interests.

The economic forces grind slow but sure, not controllable, but understandable. An understanding that opens a wide field for human activity, enlightened action substituted for blind emotionalism: a knowledge that never leads to hailing passing sectional phases as new phases in evolution. But gives the clearer vision of the passing of our present capitalistic system as inevitable whether we wish it or otherwise, and the greater number conscious of the inevitable passing of our present system the more peaceful will be the birth of the new.

J.M.G.

### APOLOGY.

Owing to the arrest of our Acting Editor, we ask and claim the indulgence of our members and subscribers in general for any shortcomings or delay in the publication of this issue. Whilst every effort will be made to keep up to the usual standard, our readers will understand the unsatisfactory conditions under which we are working at the present time.

Any complaints or information will be gladly received and dealt with by the

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

## War Aims.

The April issue of the "Socialist" contains a resume of the war aims of the respective belligerents, from which we reprint a few clippings. They do not pretend to be a precis. The general burden of the articles—the power of capital, the purely capitalistic objects sought in the war, the relation between imperialism, militarism and the class war—is familiar to our readers.

The peculiarity of the armament business is that the more goods there, are sold the greater becomes the demand for more goods!

The textile trade can multiply itself without causing serious diplomatic problems. But with an increase in the exportation of iron rails the whole diplomatic world is set agog. Rails, and the iron and steel equipments which these necessitate, can only be laid in an undeveloped country after much higgling between Governments.

When a consignment of cotton is sent to another country the capital invested in it reaps one profit on the transaction, but when a consignment of rails and equipment is sent to some undeveloped country they furnish a perpetual source of annual income.

Sir E. Grey definitely assured the financiers that they would out the "utmost support" of the Government in their endeavours to "get concessions for railways and so forth" from any foreign country.

The revolutionary working class triumphant is not a robber class. It does not exploit, therefore, it has nothing to conceal. In publishing the secret treaties Trotsky explained:—

"The Government of workmen and peasants abolishes secret diplomacy, with its intrigues, figures and lies. We have nothing to conceal."

the basis history." Herder remarked that "history is geography set in motion." And a brilliant American, lady stated that "what is to-day a fact in geography becomes to-morrow a factor in history."

Coal played a vital part in the welfare and prosperity of the countries of the world during the nineteenth century.

On will seal the fate of nations during the twentieth century.—P. 301. ("The Oil Conquest of the World," E. A. Talbot.)

According to American scientific estimates there is only oil in sight in that great continent for another 29 years—a situation which is causing serious disquietude to the Government of the United States.

It must also be noted how necessary transportation has become in these days when production is mainly a problem of getting markets for commodities and getting goods delivered there.

Wheat areas of fertile soil become objects necessary for the continuance of the industrial labour-processes.

Russia's passion for Constantinople, so far as it was political and economic, was the passion of the Ukraine.

The occupation of the Transcaucasus will give the Turko-German block control of the most valuable copper and manganese ores in Europe.

The principal condition on which Germany and Austria will make peace with Rumania is that Rumania must expropriate all Rumanian oilfield companies and entrust the exploitation of the fields for ninety-nine years to a combination of German and Austrian banks.

Every capitalist Power in the world which has prostituted the words Freedom and Liberty hailed with enthusiasm the march of the German Army against Socialism in Russia.

This, said the Manchester Daily Dispatch 'February 11, 1918), may not be altogether unadvantageous to us," because "it discredits the Bolsheviks with Lenin and Trotsky."

Already American capitalists have stated their objection to Japan attacking Russia, and the reason advanced is expressed in the terms of economic interests.

Japanese business men have flourished precisely because Japan kept out of the land war and gave her shipowners and her merchants unhampered scope. The mere sending of a fair-sized expedition to Siberia, let alone a big campaign, would mean the prompt commandeering for military purposes of Japanese shipping and the ending of the shipowner's and the merchant's harvest. Intervention would be immediately reflected in a collapse on the Stock Exchance. Business interests do not want that.

Again, there are all those Japanese politicians and business men who say that Japan's real field, the field in which she has prospered in the past and will in the future, is China, and that the risks in China are trifling compared wit those in Siberia, while the dividends are infinitely higher.

According to Mr. Philip Price, the well-informed Russian correspondent. the people of Petrograd are calm although the German troops are marching upon the city.

Thus he says ("Manchester Guardian," March 6, 1918) "the bourgeoise cans carcely conceal their satisfaction."

The struggle in Finland is a civil war, a war between property and socialism. By calling in a foreign army to put down their fellow-Finns of the socialist persuasion the Finnish bourgeoisie have put property above patriotism.—"Manchester Guardian," March 6, 1918.

The capitalist class of Finland has not put property above patriotism. The defence and extension of property is patriotism!

According to a recent book on the "Export of Capital," by Mr. Hobson, "railways absorb more British capital than any other form of enterprise."

Under capitalism commerce is a form of war, and war is a form of commerce.

Britain has fought many European nations in the past in the defence of the Belgium coast. In this, as always, it was commercial policy that determined military policy.

The reason for Britain's anxiety to dominate Southern Persia is because of its plentiful supply of oil and other materials necessary for the development of an industrial nation exporting iron, steel and cotton goods.

At present the British sphere of influence only touches the southern region of the Persian Gulf. A glauce at our map shows how necessary it is for British capital to control the Gulf on the Persian side.

Britain has already occupied the new territory in Persia placed under her influence. The territory has been occupied to ensure "order" in Persia! Mr. Bonar Law admitted this in answer to a question put to him in the House of Commons as to whether "the South Persian Rifles were not introduced as a first step towarrs a British occupation or annexation of that district."

A letter was sent to the Foreign Office by Lord Rathmore regarding the future of German railways in Asia Minor. Lord Rathmore is the President of the Ottoman Railway (Smyrna to Ardin Company).

If the control of the Anatolian and Bagdad railways be taken out of German hands, this Council would most respectfully suggest that our company should be entrusted with their management.

The imperialistic Lord Cromer begins his famous treatise on Egypt by remarking that the Egyptian question is fundamentally a financial question.

A confidential telegram to the Russian Ambassador in Paris, from Petrograd, February 24, 1916, says:

"It is particularly necessary to insist on the exclusion of the Polish question from the subjects of international discussion and on the elimination of all attempts to place the future of Poland under the guarantee and the control of the Powers. . . . Rumania has already been offered all the political advantages which could induce her to take up arms, and therefore it would be perfectly futile to search for new baits in this respect."

A similar telegram dated January 30, 1917, agrees to "the desire of France to secure for herself at the end of the present war the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine and a special position in the valley of the River Saar as well as to attain the political separation from Germany of her trans-Rhenish districts and their organisation on a separate basis in order that in future the River Rhine might form a permanent strategical frontier against a Germanic invasion."

"The inclusion in French territory of the entire iron district of Lorraine and of the entire coal district of the Saar valley."

Out of 28.6 million tons of iron ore which Germany extracted from her soil in 1913, 21 million tons came from Lorraine. Out of 2,800 million tons, representing the iron deposits of Germany. the German engineers—admitted that Lorraine alone—contained 2,100 millions. Had Germany left Lorraine to France in 1871 it is certain there would never have arisen in France a desire for a war of revenge. It is equally true that without Lorraine and its ore Germany would never have bene in a position to enter on a world war.

German militarism is not an end in itself, but is conceived as the most powerful instrument of economic expansion.

To quote the confidential memorandum presented in May, 1914, to the Imperial Chancellor by the six great industrial and agricultural associations of Germany—"coal is one of the most decisive means of influence." Already in 1914 the coal of the Ruhr basin formed the bulk of the 60,000,000 tons of Rhine traffic; if the schemes for connecting the Rhine and the Danube succeed: Germany would become, says Vival de la Blache, "the great dispenser of coal on the Continent," and as such the arbiter of its destinies.

The French capitalists are hungering for the iron, potash, and mineral deposits of Alsace-Lorraine, but these provinces could best be worked by taking over the great German coalfields of the Saar valley. In order to carry on her iron and steel trade France is now compelled to import coal. Without coal the iron deposits of Alsace-Lorraine could place France at the mercy of the coal-exporting countries. Thus in order to extract the fullest profit from Alsace-Lorraine it is imperative for the French capitalists to control the coal-steposits of the Saar valley.

According to the "Manchester Guardian, a memorandum dated February 22: 1917, sets forth a secret agreement made between Russia. France and England in the spring of 1916 over Asiaiic Turkey. According to this agreement France receives the seaboard of Syria, the Adana vilayet, and Lesser Armenia to the line Aintab-Mardin on the south and Kaisaried-Kharput on the north. This will no doubt recompense the French' financiers for the heavy loans which they advanced to Turkey right up to 1914. Likewise it was the finanmiers interested in the steel industity who almost precipitated war between France and Germany over Morocco.

The sad-fated expedition to Gallipoli and the Dardanelles, as the secret treaties now reveal, was the price paid by the heroic youth of Britain in order to establish the power of Russian capitalism at Constantinople. The statesman who accepted responsibility for the expedition airily dismissed the futile sacrifice of thou ands of workers' lives as "a gamble." Mr. Churchill, by using that term, expressed himself in the appropriate language of capitalist speculators. War is business and business is war!

The Russian Government of the Tsar was up to the eyebrows in debt to the financiers of France and Britain. It was British finance that saved Tsardom in 1905 when the revolutionaries almost overthrew the despotism. The greater part of that debt was used prior to 1914 to crush the revolutionary movement. Can we wonder at the Maximalists repudiating the debt which the Tsar had incurred in order to persecute them?

Baron Rosen, who was interviewed by Mr. Philip Price, confessed: As one who saw the inside of Tsarist diplomacy, I knew that war was coming as far back as 1912 Behind the curtain of Russian secret diplomacy I saw that war was being made inevitable by the rising tide of revolution from below. A clique of Ministers round the Tsar's Court knew that their only hope was to stave off revolution by setting the Armies marching.—"Manchester Guardian," February 27, 1918.

When, however, the wa ritself became the means of strengthening the revolution, the Tsar's Government set about making overtures to Germany. The discovery of this led to the outery in the Allied press against the Tsar and certain "dark forces." The influence of the Allied financiers was used against

the Tsar; the Russian capitalists, in order to continue the war for their own ends, aided the Socialist revolutionaries; and under this joint pressure the old regime was swept away.

A confidential telegram of the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Ambassador in Paris, March 5, 1915. says: Now the British Government has given its complete consent in writing to the annexation by Russia of the Straits and Constantinople within the limits indicated by us, and only demanded security for its economic interests and a similar benevolent attitude on our part towards the political aspiration of England in other parts.

Another says: The Imperial Government confirms its assent to the inclusion of the neutral one of Persia in the British sphere of influence. A portion of this will have to be annexed to the Russian sphere of influence. Of essential importance to the Imperial Government is the question of railway construction in the neutral one; which will require further amicable discussion.

By agreement dated London, April 26, 1915, Italy receives. Trentino and Istria./ Dalmatia and the Adriatic 1 -lands and the Gulf of Valona, and France, Great Britain and Russia admit in principle the fact of Italy's interest in the maintenance of political balance of power in the Mediterranean, and her rights, in case of a partition of Turkey, to a share, equal to theirs, in the basin of the Mediterranean. Libya Italy is to enjoy all those rights and privileges which now belong to the Sultan in virtue of the Treaty of Lausanne. Should France and Great Britain extend their colonial possessions in Africa at the expense of Germany, they will admit in principle Italy's right to demand certain compensation by way of an extension of her possessions in Erythrea, Somaliland, and Libya, and the colonial areas adjoining French and British colonies.

The great railway route which runs from the North Sea to Brindisi is an opposition thoroughfare to the Berlin-Bagdad Railway. The relation of Brindisi to Valona is self evident.

Italy must have access to the Balkans in order to get coal and iron, of which, like France, she has a limited supply. A reference to Philips' "Chamber of Commerce Atlas" will show that in the Balkan States, especially Serbia, there are some splendid coalfields and iron deposits. This explains why Italy desires to get a footing in the Balkans and why she is anxious to control a part of the coast line on the Balkan side of the Adriatic Sea.

The above policy of Italian imperialism, with its cruel destruction of the independenc of small nations and provinces, has received a check at the hands of the Italian working class.

In one of the most ironical notes ever written, M. Polivanoff, a former Russian War Minister, welcomes the defeat of Rumania. He said, according to a secret diplomatic note, that a strengthened Rumania would strive to extend her seaboard by seeking Bessarabia. Thus he argued: In view of this the collapse of Greater Rumania is an idea not against the interests of Russia.

The recently published report of the Committee on National Expenditure in this country reveals the extent of the fabulous and unprecedented profits that

have been made by the iron and steel industry since 1914. These profits explain why the American capitalists desired a war. The "U" boat menace was hampering the delivery of munitions which might have ended in the Allies withdrawing orders and supplies from America. Sosslong as American finance, in the irons and steel trades, was able to deliver orders it showed no anxiety to enter the war. The press of this country insulted and caricatured America for its policy prior to her declaration of war. But the declaration of war did not come until the "T" boat began to restrict the delivery of American goods. The Americans, therefore fought to preserve the freedom of the seas-i.e., trade routes.

On the other hand, as Mr. Bonar Law admitted. America came in just in time to save the financial situation. The American financiers have advanced millions to the Allies. In order to establish the security of the Allies they were able to pull their country, with its unlimited financial power, into the war.

# League Notes.

The usual monthly dance was held at Professor West's Academy, on Saturday last, which was enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic gathering. The arrangements were in the hands of the Ladies' Entertainment Committee. The Committee hope members will roll up in larger numbers and so help to ensure the success of their efforts.

We regret to say that Comrade J. Campbell is in hospital, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

MARRIAGE. — Congratulations to Comrades Dave Elk and Miss Howe, who have been united in matrimonial bliss. We hope they will have a long and happy life together, and trust they will continue to do good work in the interests of the League.

DEATH.—Going to press, we regret to announce the death of Mrs. Saperstein, and wish to express the deep sympathy of the League with the bereaved husband and family.

#### AN APPEAL.

On Saturday last, 6th inst., our Comrade Bunting (Acting Editor), Comrade Tinker (Acting Secretary), and Comrade Hanscombe were arrested and charged with the crime of public violence, rea dwith the Riotous Assemblies and Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1914, during the years of 1917 and 1918.

From the foregoing it appears they are charged with a serious offence. We therefore make this appeal to all members and sympathisers to rally to our banher and lend us their moral and financial support.

We recognise we have a hard fight in front of us so make no delay and send rour subscriptions at once to the Treasurer. Box 4179, same will be acknowledged from time to time in this paper (by initials only).

# "The Taint."

Like some vile poison which travels to the most secret parts of the body, rendering it all vile, so the poison of capitalism permeates every institution of present-day civilisation. There are institutions and movements in society with plenty of capacity for good, but which take on the character of their capitalistic environment and become mercenary and debased. Based as our present society is on the exploitation of the great mass of the people by a few privileged individuals—a society the primary necessity for which is that a large portion of the people remain in a state of degradation—how can anything which is essentially noble and pure remain so for any length of time? No matter what institutions or movements are placed under the miscroscope of socialist thought, the taint is there. Take politics. Even in the minds of those hostile to our propaganda the word "politician" is rapidly becoming a synonym for "office-seeker and humbug." Or religion. Where a religion is dependent for its existence upon the charity of a bigoted idle class there can be no honesty or truth

As socialists, however, the sorry state of political and religious activity concerns us little. But nowhere is this taint making more disrastrous mischiet than in the sphere of art. Our literature (especially fiction) is taking on the character of a cesspool, and the pernicious influence is rapidly spreading to sculpture and painting. With the growth of capitalism the character of literature has entirely changed, and our leading novelists have prostituted their genius in holding up the mirror, not to portray the visions of a happier freer world, but to revel in the chaos and misery of our so-called civilisation. The most esteemed novelists of our age are those who can most minutely analyse the feelings and passions of the courtesan, rogue and voluptuary. Those who descend into the lowest depths of filth are placed on the highest pinnacle of fame. It could not be otherwise. Could a lily blossom in a dirt-box? On the stage it is no longer "profitable" to produce the heroic dramas of the ancient playwrights. Juliet has been superseded by Sappho, Hamlet by an unfortunate vouth who suffers from syphilis. Our painters in this mercenary age are concerned with painting the portrait of Mrs. Boodle, the wife of the local mayor who made his fortune as a draper, or of the Marchioness of the Fiji Islands.

Let us leave this unsavoury subject and imagine what will happen when the workers' commonwealth is established. The thoughts and passions of a pepple freed from the degradation of the wage system will be embodied in poem's and plays such as were never heard upon earth. The artists of the race will give free rein to their most exalted impulses, unfettered by the degrading patronage of a ruling class. Human thought shall blossom like an opening rose. The spirits of the ancient poets who sang ere capitalism came will descend upon the earth, and love and joy. will again become the deathless theme of immortal bards.

M. LOPES.

# John MacLean Sentenced

On Thursday, May 9th, John Mac-Lean was tried at Edinburgh High Court by a jury and sentenced by Lord Justice General Ure to five years' imprisonment plus one year of his previous sentence still to run. His crime was seditious speeches, and there was a long indictment.

A correspondent who was present

during the proceedings writes:

The Court was filled, and there were hundreds who could not be admitted. The interest created by the trial was excepitonal, it being stated that it was the first time in the hisory of the Court that the queue sysem of admittance had to be adopted.

The Lord Chief Justice, addressing MacLean, said that he was charged with a series of offences under the Defence of the Realm regulations, and the indictment had been served upon him.

"Are you guilty or not guilty?" MacLean replied "I refuse to plead." "Very well, that is equivalent to a plea of not guilty," said his lordship.

MacLean made a great impression by the clever way in which he cross-exam-

ined the witnesses.

The Lord Advocate said that not one of them could see into the dark recesses of the human heart, and on this side of time none of them would ever know: the motives which tempted a man at home to destroy the liberty and freedom which were being defended abroad. But just as they could not know what. the motive was, they must judge the man by what he did, and what the prisoner had done his best to do was to create sedition and disaffection among the civilian population. It became the duty of the State to protect its brave young working men from such seditious teaching, although, for himself, he did not believe influences of this kind were likely to besmirch the honesty and integrity of their young men.

MacLean in his speech from the dock said that he had been lecturing for many years before the war, and the statements he had recently made were on the same lines. No one was going to take from him the right to protest against wrong or keep him from telling the truth, or from doing anything for the benefit of mankind. He said Government had been the first to adopt unconstitution methods, by the passing of D.O.R.A.; it had swept aside all law, and order. He therefore claimed the right to criticise their policy. A Government that could not stand criticism should not be tolerated. In regard to the "ca" canny" policy, he stated that so long as the master class had the right to restrict wages and speed up output, the working class had as much right to calcanny and get as high wages as possible.

I stand here, not as the accused; he said, but as the accuser of capitalism, dripping from head to foot in human blood. Then lie went on to show that so long as capitalism continued, so long would war continue to be waged, and that the present war was the outcome of the system under which we lived, and had been foreseen years before by Karl Marx. In conclusion, he said that he wanted a better system, under which the people would be able to live happier and healthier lives.

He spoke for about 75 minutes, and

it is not impossible that some day his speech from the dock will be available in pamphleth form.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty

without retiring.

The Lord Chief Justice General said accused was obviously a highly educated and intelligent man, who thoroughly realised the seriousness of the offence he had committed. The sentence of the Court was five years' penal servitude.

MacLean was not taken aback, but turned round, looked up at the gallery, and shouted: "Keep it going, boys;

keep it going!"

#### JOTTINGS.

A sure sign that a labour leader is reaching the end of his career is the increasing attempts he has to make to justify his actions.

There is only one difference between the bases of capitalism and socialism, that is the private ownership of the product of social production. This little difference, however requires a social revolution to harmonise the methods of production with the distribution.

The workers are asked to economise, but there has always been three stages in a worker's life: 1st, the period when, his mother economises for him; 2nd, when the mother passes on a portion of the job to him; 3rd, when he takes over the entire job and economises for himself.

#### THINGS WE. WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

Whether Mr. Duncan has informed the "Star" where and when socialism has been tried and failed? Or is that gentleman lying in an effort to retard the inevitable doom of capitalism?

When has the discovery been made that workers (white and black) are capable of thinking? Has it been the result of recent research which has revealed the fact that the workers are talking about socialism?

A Provincial Council Commission on education is believed to be still sitting. The only education the workers need trouble about is education in socialism —the capitalist will attend to the rest. The Central Labour College and Plebs League of Britain are giving that education, e.g. by study classes for economics, industrial history, etc. The I.S.L. is doing something in the same direction among both whites and blacks in Johannesburg, and comrades elsewhere should at once take up the study class habit in their own towns, for that is what is "revolutionising" working class Britain to-day.

#### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

We appeal to members who can write suitable articles for the paper to do so, especially at the present juncture whilst we are labouring under difficulties; contributors must not take offence if their articles are not published; but same will be gladly received by the Press Committee.

> C.B.T. For Press Committee.

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