# HE INTERNATIONAL

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

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# Working Class Pride.

(From an article by E. L. Pratt, in "Solidarity.")

The first thing that the wage-slave needs to realise in order to attain his freedom is the fact that he is a slave. "The worker has nothing to lose but his chains," said Marx; but before he can lose them he must realise that they are chains, and feel the weight of them. We believe that this initial stage in the slawe's progress has now been passed, so far as the majority of the workers are concerned. But there is another mental process that has to be gone through before the slave-conscicus profetariat can make their force felt in society. They must despise themselves as serfs, but cultivate nevertheless a stron class-pride in the fact that they are workers—producers —on whom the whole operations of the world are based. and without whose continued efforts society could not hang together for a single minute.

We plead therefore Class Pride as well as for Class Consciousness. It is an amazing fact that so many workers even yet appear to be prouder of their aristocracy or their plutocracy than they are of themselves. Snobocracy holds the field, while a true democracy still awaits its day. The miner, the weaver, the farm labourer still fall down and worship the duke who lives on them—but despises them—while treating their own class as if it were of no account. How often one hears a working man boasting that he came from the same town as Lever or Lipton, and how seldom from the place that had produced a race of sturdy handworkers, engineers or blast-furnacemen. A workman will prate of a brother who is a doctor a lawyer or a parson (however, poor a representative of these professions he may be). but we never hear of his brother if he only happens to be a carpenter or bricklayer. So many of the workers seem to take a positive delight in kowtowing to the idle rich who splash them with mud from their motor cars in the street, while they look down with contempt on their own poor relatives whose industry helps to build up the fortunes of their oppressers. You will even hear them puffing themselves up at times because their employer happens to have a-thousand people working for him, while poor Bill round the corner works for a bose who can only run to one man, a boy and an oil can. This is pride of a kind. But it is the wrong kind. It is the kind that revels in the strength of the employing class, and not in the labour of the working class from which the former is derived. It is the lickspittle stupidity on which most of the wars, woes and wrongs of the world have sprung from time immemorial. Even among our more advanced and

socialist comrades we frequently hear a lot of nonsense talked about the 'respectability" of the movement, and the necessity of keeping hold of the "respectable" black-coated element. Not in this way will those chains be shaken off. The regrettable fact is, of course, that a considerable number of the loudmouthed variety of agitators are not really in sympathy with the ideals of the proletariat at all, but are merely using their own class as a convenient jumping-off ground from which they may leap into the arms of the parasitic class themselves. If anyone doubts this let him look up the records of "Labour" members now safely housed in Government jobs, and doing the dirty work of the capitalists in high places. A proper sense of pride in their own labouring folk would have saved them from this fate—which is awful indeed.

The truth is that we cannot expect the workers to make much advance until this spirit is eradicated and a Class Conscious Pride has taken its place. What is the chief moral support of the soldier on the baftle-field? Pride in the justice of his cause. He does not despise his brother Tommy, and spend his time wondering how he can become an officer. Likewise the soldier on the industrial battle-field will never "get on" with the Class War if he looks down on his comrades in the ranks, and snatches at every opportunity for deserting and betraying them. For the curious thing about the Class War is that it is so very difficult to become an officer in the rebel army without being "nobbled" by the enemy. We would strenuously urge upon the rank and file to cease hero-worship even of their appointed leaders. The day of leaders is fast becoming a thing of the past. We shall be a lot safer if the people worship themselves in future. But a wise worship can only be based on a foundation of self-respect, and that will come only when the workers, fully conscious of their own claims, realise at last that useful labour is the only criterion that we must apply to every man, and that "work and wealth go hand in hand."

- Capitalism is busy at present warning everybody that the Class Consciousnes we advocate is only another word for Class Hatred. But we have learned better in our school. Their Class Consciousness has always been u synoyum for hatred, fear and contempt of the poor—all of which were simply the result of a guilty conscience. The workers have no need for these feelings, because their cause is just. But we do hate Capitalism, and all its works and ways. We have a vision of a better society in which a man's contribution to the service of his fellows whether by hand or brain will be the true test of his worth, and when he will be judged by what he puts into the common stock, and not as now, by what he takes out. As pride in Labour

increases so will the conceit of riches stink more and more in the nostrils of mankind. Let us faster the new ethics that puts socially useful labour before all the heaped up possessions of the parasites and plunderers, and pulls down the rotten structure of Competition and Greed that the Industrial Commonwealth of all the workers may stand in its stead. And the new framework of society will be all the stronger, and last all the longer if it is fashioned out of the pride of the workers in their labour and in their class."

# Charity.

A meeting of unskilled workers was held at the Old Bioscope Hall, Vrededorp, under the auspices of the Municipal Unskilled Employes' Union, on Thursday, July 1'. The following resolution was carried:

This meeting of municipal workers views with alarm the retrenchment of white unskilled workers from the municipal services, and strong protests against the door being closed to white workers while every encouragement is given to cheap native labour; further, this meeting requests the South African Industrial Federation to support the unskilled workers in this protest."

When will vou workers realise the uselessness of looking to Governments or Municipalities or to Federations to look after vour interests; have you not read sufficient criticisms in the local Press from various ratepayers' associtions, editorials, etc., etc., against your employment and emphasising the fact that the municipality is not a charitable institution.

Have not the politicians told you time and time again in the past, and I will wager will tell you again next October, our municipality should be run on business lines, that it is business men we want there.

Of course it is! Business is business, vou know (ask some of your Labour members about it) and the primary motive of husiness is to make Profits. That being so is not your Business municipality quite justified in employing the most competent labour available at the cheapest price (wages)no commodity status there—no fellow workers you will never be treated as men, as human beings, or as citizens of this world until your have overthrown capitalism.

Then come along and join the only Revolutionary Labour Body in this country, whose object is to educate the masses up to their true functions, and assist as far as possible to form inclustrial unions, where every individual whether skilled or urskilled will be numbers, for therein lies your only hope of salvation.

# Dishonoured Bills.

Last Sunday, the 14th July, the anniversary of the taking of the Bastille, the first episode of the French Revolution, was celebrated in France and the Allied countries with the usual platitudes and empty jingling phrases, peculiar to the representatives of the bourgeoisie that climbed to economic and political power as the result of that revolution. The placing of the political power in the control of the bourgeoisie was mainly effected by the aid of the "common people," the worker. The masses were used as the steppingstones to power: Without their aid they could not have overthrown the feudalistic form of government that was a barrier to their economic development. After using the masses as tools to gain power, they turned upon them and denied to them the enjoyment of the hypnotic phrase, 'Liberty', Fraternity, Equality." This phrase was in every mouth and hypnotised the poverty-stricken wretches of feudalistic France to shed their blood like water to place in power economic masters that, if possible, have less of the milk of human kindness in their anatomy than the Feudal Barons, who made no pretence of humanitarianism, but looked upon the masses as mere cattle.

The middle class on gaining power not only in France, but in all industrially developed countries, have been compelled by the very nature of capitalistic production to treat this phrase and all their solemn compadts and amelionating promises to the masses as but "scraps of paper," "dishonoured bills," that have served the immediate purpose of either gaining power, or delaying the threatened storm, and Micawber-like hope that something will turn up that will divertative inevitable cyclone that will drag the capitalistic upas tree from its roofs, leaving the social evil unencumbered, ready for the Tree of social and economic equality that will spring up and spread its benignant branches over the

hunan race:

The main principle at the root of the French Revolution was economic. It was the driving force that unconsciously compelled the middle class to seize the opportune moment to overthrow the feudal state. The cultured class conceived society to be the enterme of a contract that might be unmade or altered at the will of the individual. This idea of individualism permeated all sections of society and had its reflex in the attempt to establish a state. in which the individual would be supreme and go his own sweet way independent of his fellows.

The attempt on this form of individualism was excusable. They had no knowledge of the evolutionary process controlled by the economic forces, that has always dominated all phases of . 0ciety. Their outlook was restrained and circumscribed to this ideal establishment: stable, never changing, except in minor details of no importance in themselves, a society that would give material expression to the dominating phrase Liberty, Fraternity, Equality.

We, to-day, looking back at the history of the development of capitalism during the past one hundred years, and using the knowledge that has accumuleted during that period, can see the futility of such Utopian sechemes as

this stability in any phase of society. The scientific knowledge accumulated during the 19th century teaches the lesson that all things change, nothing is stable, a fact that applies to all. things in nature.

This law of ever changing conditions is accepted by the capitalist class and their nominees, the governing class, but in theory only. All their actions ane aimed at retarding the evolutionary process, and make them subservient to their own interests, leading them to make promises to redress grievances, promises that cannot be kept, but which intensifies the antagonism that has always existed since the advent of civilisation.

The growing unrest in all industrial countries is leading the possessing class to make all sorts of promises. The appointment of Commissions to enquire into grievances is but enother form of shirking the question of demands on the part of the workers for redress. This unrest is forcing a the capitalist class to rely more and more upon the power of the State to maintain "order" and crush any demands the workers may make by strikes or otherwise.

The possessing class have always fought hard to maintain themselves in possession of political and economic power, but were beaten in the straggle with the class whose historic role it was to take control. The possessing class ousted as the result of the French Revolution proceastined and promised reforms they were powerless to put inoperation. So the capitalist class of to-day follow the same tactics. Having learned nothing from the past, but like their predecessors when the Bastille was being taken by the people of Paris are making merry, planning and scheming for the future, quite ignorant of the seething unrest that must give expression which will lead to the dissolution of our present system.

The possessing class, susted and replaced by the middle-class in France. had an excuse our capitalistic class must be denied. If they, as described by Carlyle, made merry "at the Orangery of Versailies, where high-roughed Dames of the Palace are, even now dancing with double-jacketed Hw-car-Officers," whilst the Bastille was being destroyed and human blood dying the streets of Paris. The exeuse of ignorance can be made for them, denied as they were of the knowledge of the instability of human societies. In the absence of the evolutionary idea it was inevitable that both the feudalistic ruling classtand the rising bourgeoisie should both unconsciously agt as their economic requirements determined, the one to retain possession, the others to

obtain possession.

The mass of the community to-day are ignorant of the instability of human societies. But the economic forces compel them to act against those who are in possession. The possessing class in the mass are just as ignorant, but have the intellectuals in their pay to solve the riddle of these antagonisms. These intellectuals (many of them), see the mevitable result of these antagonisms, but like good servants in the pay of liberal masters, strive to stay the evolutionary forces by schemes that are as worthless as dishonoured bills, and unable to stay the downfall of the system, that can neither be accelerated or retarded, but will fall when the economic conditions are ripe. J.M.G.

### The Cresswell Panacea.

A meeting held under the auspices of the Sub-Federation of S.A.I.F. took place at the Savoy Theatre, Benoni, on Sunday, the 14th. Mr. R. Walker occupied the chair and although the meeting could not be called a large one. a number of people, in which there was a fair sprinkling of local comrades, turned up to hear Mr. W. B. Madeley, M.I.A., discourse on Socialism versus Commercialism.

The chairman, on rising, stated that those persons who had come specially to hear Mr. Madeley would be disappointed as Mr. Madeley had at the last moment and without consulting any of those promoting the meting, requested Mr. Cre-well to take his place, and therefore Mr. Creswell would be the

speaker for the evening.

Protests were raised from the audience and suggestions of shuffling against Mr. Madeley, the chairman asked the audience to vote as to whether they would hear Mr. Creswell or Mr. Madeley, and without a division it was decided to hear Mr. Creswell.

Mr. Creswell commenced his address by stating that he did not believe in "isms." be it socialism or any other ism, and went on to some vague definition of private property, and eventually wound up with a strong plea for State control, emphasising the present need of the State control of mines, and after a few more platitudes sat down learing us to digest the great remedy for the present evils, viz., State Conicol.

At question time the comrades got busy and Mr. Cre-well was very soon in the soup. His replies would not have done credit to a mine magnate.

He said that capitalism was not the real enemy, it was only the large capitalists who produced nothing that we had to fight, the small working man capitalist who drew dividends and interest from his savings was all right.

I should suggest that someone send him a copy of the Socialist Commandments, one of which reads: "All wealth is produced by labour, whosoever enjoys it without working for it, is stealing the bread of the workers."

To further questions he stated that people who worked harder than he did should have a higher remuneration, notwithstanding that it was pointed out that no one could eat two breakfasts or sleep in two beds.

But no! no abolishing the wage system for him, no idea of everyone hav-

He admitted that State control had done very little up to the present, but with a labour, representative on the boards it would be all right.

He agreed that Internationalism was good if you confined it to the Allied countries.

Now, we have the panacea. State control within the capitalist system. Great Scott! what a remedy. What a cause to fight for.

No. Mr. Creswell, State control will

never solve the problem.

Capitalism must go, whether it be State or individual, and while it is going we shall build up an "Industrial International" that shall eventually take over and administer all the economic resources of the civilised world.

THE SLING-STICK.

# War Expenditure.

Some fertile brain has raised the cry that this war will have to be paid for. Now who would have thought of such a thing? All those patriotic individuals who advanced money for the prosecution of the war to a successful end, will have to be paid. Then some show of paying pensions will have to be made or there will be no end of a row. Yes, the war will have to be paid for.

Politicians, economists and other "ists" and "ians" of the capitalists" retinue, look around at society and proclaim that all classes must bear the burden. What nonsense these people talk.

In our present society superficial observers think it is possible for one class to take an unfair advantage of the other when it comes to taxpaying. But how is that possible when there are only two classes, the capitalist and working class, and one of these classes has not got the wherewith to pay for the war. It only gets sufficient to keep it in existence.

The method the Government adopt for raising the wind is taxation. Taxes on incomes, taxes on commodities, etc., fall on the shoulders of the capitalist. It means a deduction in profits. A tax on commodities, says the "knowalls" is handed on to the consumer in the form of increased prices, but this is erroneous. Commodities exchange with one another in proportion to the amount of average social labour-power embodied in them. Suppose it takes four hours to produce a sovereign, and the workers in an industry receive one sovereign each as wages for an eight hour day. In four hours each worker, if they have worked with the average skill and speed prevalent in society, will have produced commodities equivalent in value to his wages. In half a day they will return the value of their wages, but they must labour the full eight hours, and for the remaining four hours they will receive nothing. This is how the capitalists make their profits. The value created in these four hours of unpaid labour is called surplus value. It is out of this surplus value taxes are paid and the price of commodities is not affected by the boss being compelled to hand a portion of this surplus to the Government. The workers are robbed in the workshop. They produce the world's wealth, but only draw enough to kep them alive. The working class is therefore not concerned with taxation, and should the Government increase the taxes to pay for this war, the capitalists will pay them.

But there has been talk of making Germany pay an indemnity. It has not been put forward by capitalists' representatives. They have learned the fufility of indemnities. The Franco-Prussian war supplied the startling lesson that the country paying the indemnity advances industrially ahead of the receiving country. Prussia imposed an indemnity on France in the hope of breaking the French capitalists, but it very nearly broke Prussia. The capitalist class never forgive an injury, hut they never forget a lesson, they have learned by bitter experience. It would be surprising if they have forgotten the lesson of 1870.

There is one more argument that is advanced. That an enormous tax will be placed on every head, no matter

whether it is adorned with short woolly curls of the Bantu race or the fair locks of the Anglo-Saxon: all will have to pay a poll tax to meet the expenditure incurred in beating the Germans. In the working class there are many races and many standards of living, not made in accordance to race requirements, but in accordance to the place occupied in the ranks of social produ-

All these workers, no matter what their standard, may be receive just sulficient to maintain their position. The poorly-paid worker receiving 20s. per week will demand 25s. if a tax of 5s per week is imposed. It will therefore mean, taking the previous example of value and surplus value, that the capitalists will receive only three hours surplus value, as it will take five instead of four hours for the workers to return the value of their wages.

The capitalist class must pay for this war. Not because they are patriotic, nor because they like it. But they are the only class in a position to pay. They have robbed the workers of sixsevenths of the product of their labour. So let them pay. It is no concern of ours—the workers. Our duty to society us to overthrow capitalism and establish the socialist commonwealth.

M.J.C.G.

# John MacLean's Trial and Sentence.

The following incident in reference to John MacLean's trial (reported in our last issue) may be of interest to our readers; showing that these men are something more than phrasemongers, or consider they have done their bit by attending a committee or branch meeting ocasionally:--

"One of the most interesting sidelights on the trial was the overnight march to Edinburgh. On the Wednesday evening preceding the trial a party of about thirty socialists assembled at the International Hall, Stockwell St., Glasgow. For a distance of about five or six miles out of the town they were accompanied by about 1,500, and the procession created something of a sensation in the city. The capitalist Press, as usual, of course, tried to belittle and ridicule the little hand of thirty enthusiasts who covered the 44 miles and got to Edinburgh in time for the trial.

"But the men who accomplished that journey (when others were lving comfortably in their beds), without the cheering influence of the sun's rays and the smiling landscape, were above the miserable sneers of invertebrate hack scribblers and demonstrated the fact that the socialist movement has a grafting of the type of men who are prepared to do much more than 'express pious opinions or sympathies."—From 'The Call," May 16.

Wage labour rests exclusively on competition between the labourers.— Marx.

Political power, properly so called, is merely the organised nower of one class for oppressing another.—Marx.

In the present society, a non-capitalist government is an impossibility.— Wm. Liebknecht.

## A Prediction.

By F. ENGELS.

In 1887 Frederick Engels wrote the following preface to a pamphlet by Sipismund Borkheim, "For the German Blood and Iron Patriots to Remember':--

"And, finally, no other war but a World War is teasible for Prussia-Germany, and a world war of such dimensions and such violence as has not been witnessed before. From eight to ten million soldiers will engage in mutual slaughter and will swallow up the food stock of Europe as no swarm of locusts has done before. The devastation of the Thirty Years' War will be pressed into three or four years, and will spread over the whole Continent. There will be famine, epidemics, and a general brutalisation both of the armies and of the people, called forth by extreme want. There will be a hopeless confusion in the artificial framework of our commerce, industry and credit, which will lead to bankruptcy. . . . It is absolutely impossible to foresee how it all will end and who will come victorious out of the struggle. Yet we may be sure of one thing, and that is: a general exhaustion will ensue, and conditions for the final victory of the working class will be stablished.

"This is the outlook when the system of mutual rivalry in armaments attains its highest point and bears its inevitable truit. This is the position, my princes and statesmen, to which you have brought Old Europe in your wisdom. And when there is nothing else for you to do but to begin the last great war dance, it may suit us very well. Perhaps the war will force us to take a back seat for a time and deprive us of positions which we have conquered. But when you have let loose these forces you will not be able to curb them. Whatever the trend of events may be the result will be this: "when the tragedy is over you will be ruined, and the victory of the proletariat will either be an accomplished fact or will become inevitable."—

"Socialist." May 1918.

#### PRESS PLANT AND BUILDING FUND.

All members who possess cash for stamps sold on behalf of the above fund, please send it to the Treasurer. Box 4179, Johannesburg.

#### RECRUITING.

We hear that speeches by members of the recruiting committee are delivered from the Town Hall steps, which is in the nature of inciting to violence. We wonder if the police are in attendance at these meetings, and if any arrests are pending.

#### APPEAL.

Three of our comrades are in gaol. What are you going to do for them? Let them down. No a thousand times no. Well, money is needed to carry. on their defence, also the defence of Socialism, as that is on trial too. This is your fight, so send along your subscriptions immediately and as liberally as you can to Treasurer, Bux 41.79, Johannesburg.

# The "Capital and Labour"

#### HOW THE WORKERS MAY WIN IT OR LOSE IT.

The "Capital and Labour" Game is a splendid recreation for all classes at every season of the fear. It is a game for two parties—employers and employed—and by their superior knowledge of the game up till now the employens have generally won hands down. If it were only a question of numbers and indispensability the workers could not help coming out on top every time. But they have been a proud and "crafty" lot hitherto, and have always preferred to lose the game in their own way, rather than win it in the same way that the bosses do. But should they want to go on losing in the future it will be absolutely necessary to add to the list of ineptitudes by which they have become famous.

The strike is the only means by which the workers can ever-hope to win in the "Capital and Labour game. If they lose the strike they lose the game. Now there are many ways of losing a strike, most of which are well known and constantly practised. To make quite certain of failure in the future the following rules should be

observed:-

1. Scrap that industrial union idea, and instead of forming one society for every industry, have two or three craft unions in every shop. If unions are good things you can't have too many of them. At present there are hundreds in South Africa. Make it a million, and then you couldn't win a strike if you tried.

2. Cohesion is stupid. There is nothing more deadening than this perpetual agreement. Don't, for goodness sake, be continually fighting the bosses. Fight amongst vourselves on any subject you like. If you have different coloured skins, that would form

an excellent pretext.

3. Never miss a chance of "scabbing" on men who don't belong to your particular union. Work must go on, and why, should the masters be inconvenienced? Besides, one good "scab" deserves another, and you can be pretty sure that if Jack's union "scabs" to-day, Bill's will "cab" tomorrow, and so the game will go merrily on.

4. Always make sure that you have plenty of well-paid officials. If possible, too, see that a few of them are well in with the Government. A "labour" member is an essential factor in

strike losing.

5. Give ample notice through your federation figureheads when you do intend to go on strike. At least twelve months notice is considered necessary: The most fashionable unions usually rive about two years. The great thing is not to incommode the capitalists.

6. (and finally). When a war is declared scrap your Trade Unions immediately. Loyalty should come before lucre, and patriotism before profitsas the capitalists have shown you. In fact, if you LEARN TO THINK IM-PERIALLY you will find that it is not necessary to think any other way at

In case, however, you should still imagine that it is the business of

Trade Unionism to win in the "Capital and Labour' game, the following hints

may be useful:--

1. Abandon the methods. They built up grandfathers. Unions—necessary in their day, the workman was a craftsman and the master an individual. Now all that is changed. The workman is a cog in the wheel, and the master a joint-stock company. You have no more use for your grandfather's Craft Union than you have for his top-hat and sidewhiskers.

2. Your hundred or so Unions are just 99 to many. There must be ONE UNION FOR ALL WORKERS.

3. Organise amongst yourselves as rank and file members. Not so much trusting to leaders. They only lead into the ditch—or to a board of reference, the same thing!

4. Prepare yourselves for a strike, don't prepare the bosses. Educate, agitate, survey the ground, and get to know as much of the employers' resources and capacities as they know

about yours.

5. Remember that it is not always necessary to come out on strike. Often a strike is better fought by staying in. The threatened strikes are the best kind of all. But you must be very strong to indulge in this kind, and before you can be very strong in an industrial sense you will have to learn and apply the methods of Industrial Unionism-the only sure weapon of the worker in the coming days.

6. (and finally). LEARN TO THINK SOCIALLY AND ECONUMICALLY. Begin by regarding yourself always as the equal of your boss—if not his superior and entitled quite as much as he is to the good things of life. Don't look on vourself as a serf, or a slave, or a "hand." Crush division in the ranks, and when vou strike, strike all

together. THAT IS THE ONLY WAY WIN THE "CAPITAL AND LAB-OUR" GAME.—Adapted from "Solidarity," by S.W.

#### EQUALITY.

The German prisoners in Russia who were said to be about to take the field against the Allies under German generals have recently been the subject of a formal protest made by Germany against Russia. The reason for the protest is that the German prisoners are forming revolutionary committees and are striving for equality with German other prisoners. There has actually been a congress of German prisoners of war at Moscow, and the German Government is worried about it. — "The Pioneer, 'April 27, 1918.

Russia's new national colours consist. of a red fiag with the legend, "Federal Republic of the Soviets."

Millions of human beings have lived and died in misery, oppressed and illtreated by the master class to create this civilisation, other millions scattered over the globe labour to maintein it, without them nothing would be left in a few years but ruin.

# CAPITALISM'S VENCEANCE IN

The perjured witnesses-Mooney case, in the United States, is still arousing great attention. Mooney, it will be remembered, was sentenced to death for alleged participation in a dynamite outrage in San Francisco, although the letters of the perjurer, Oxman, had been published, showing that he was heavily bribed to lie Mooney to his death, although the chief prosecutor, Mr. Cunha, had actually written to the Editor of the "Survey Magazine," saying: "If I knew that every single witness that testified against him (Mooney) had perjured himself in his testimony. I would not lift a finger to get him a new trial." Lenin interfered with a demonstration outside the Yar ee Embassy in Petrograd, and President Wilson stayed the hanging, and appointed a Commissioner of Enquiry. This Commissioner has reported, recommending a fresh trial for Mooney, but the California Supreme Court, which is ruled by the Boss interests, refuses, and Mooney is to hang within 60 days of 1st April, 1918, unless President Wilson's hands can be strengthened sufficiently to enable him to stop the murder with a Government decree. The Parliamentary Labour Party and the London Trades' Council have both cabled to the States protesting, and a delegate from America will make a special appeal to Glasgow Trades Council this week. — "Forward, '' May 18, 1918.

From the moment that Russian Labour triumphed both the Allies and Germany worked in concert to overthrow it. Both Germany and the Allies secretly assisted the capitalists in the Ukraine against the Russian workers. This policy ended in the triumph of the German financiers imposing a most humiliating peace treaty upon the Russians. And, as though to demonstrate to what filthy depths British politicians can descend, these hypocrites denounced the Maximalists for accepting Germany's terms. Let anyone examine the facts and it willbe found that Germany triumphed over Russian Lahour because the Allies betraved it! The Russian working class was not confronted with Germany alone; the Russian working class had to fight the whole power of internationally organised capital. Thus the financiers of France and Britain, in their fear that perhaps Germany would be unable to crush Bolshevism, urged Japan, in the economic interests of the Allies, to march into Russia. The pretext for Japan's move (that the Germans intended to capture Vladivostuck) is so stupid that only statesmen are capable of uttering it. The real reason is that international capital intends to smash socialism in Russia. The Russian capitalists sought the aid of Japan, and even China, in order to batter down their own countrymen who had determined to emancipate themselves! Imperialism is not so much a war between nations—it is fundamentally a form of the international class-war between labour and capital.—"The Socialist."

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