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THE INTERNATIONAL

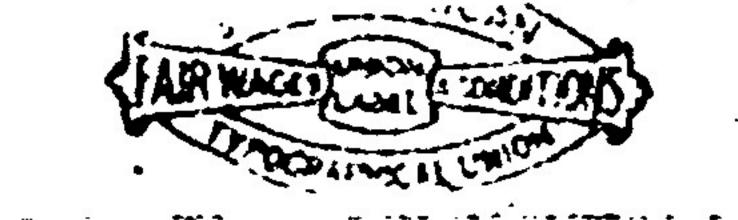
THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

P.O. Bux 4779.

Neppe's Building, 54, fox Street, Johannesburg.

Figure 6035.

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FRIDAY, SEFT. O, 1916

PRICE 30. WEEKLY

The Age of Atrucity.

In this issue we report the Mooney case, and also the case of the Bibie Students, wao, as we have since learnt, have got 20 years' penal servitude for pointing out the inconsistency between conscription and Christianity after such matter has been declared "nonmailable"—this in the land of the Pilgrim Fathers, refugees from Europe in quest of religious liberty. Again, at Washington in June last, the sentences imposed on conscientious objectors, as well as on some Germans who objected to fighting against Germans, ranged up to 20 years! In the same month, six Socialistis from St. Paul-who refused to obey military commands ifour of them having left Sweden to escape military service) were sentenced to 25 years hard labour! The other day we read of the sentence on Heywood, 14 years, and on some of his 110 I.W.W. associates, 20 vears! From certain of the doctrines or practices attributed to them (or Mooney) we dissociate ourselves; but what was the crime charged? "Conspiracy to hamper the Government's war programme." reminds as once more of the "Supreme Court of Injustice!" And from a perusal of the reports it seems the conspiracy consisted chiefly of the following: striking for a six hours day; being never satisfied with working conditions; suggesting a general strike for the release of prisoners and as a protest against the "industrial pirates"; "trying to run Milwaukee''; aiming at complete control in the harvest fields of North Dakota; opposition to the war, and 'encouraging violence against industries: necessary to prosecution of the war" (it depends what that means); "planning to tie up the lumber work in the Orogon forests" (ditto): publishing names of persons who led mob attacks on the I.W.W. and adding the I.W.W. will remember," and "an injury to one is an injury to all'; denouncing the Government: notifying members to fight against conscription by 'refusing to join any band of potential murderers'; circulating such sentiments as: "Is it harder to kiss a German flag than an American flag? Is it harder to slave under a German regime than an American?" (sentiments quite explicable in view of the above sentences) or: "Curses will rest on the heads that in cowardly submisaion go out to murder people and bring destruction over a prosperous land and its innocent people," or, as definitions, "Loyal citizen'—a deaf. dumb and blind subject; 'Registration' -- funeral procession of liberty; Un-American,' independent opinion; 'Victory,' ten million killed." But not a word about murders, bombings, or pubhio violence, and apparently no direct

evidence of any practising of subotage even. La paci inal the somether are no heavier than those passed on the hible eniferie and her ite on some of the conscionficula size jectors supports the belief that such crimes were absent: and this is corfirmed by the latest outrage- icu years for Debs, the most respectable of Labour Leaders, whose works are sold even by the S.A. Labour Party (what are they going to do about it now?). Such monstrous sentences are unheard of an any other country, yes, even in Tsarist Russia, or militarist Germany. No wonder sabotage doctrines spring up under a tyrangy so hideons.

We hear of Petrograd massacres by the Bolsheviks, as we used to hear of Belgian outrages by the Huns. The Allies and U.S.A. fight for Belgium, and against Russia, to free those countries from such horrors. But their charity, does not begin at home.

Besides lesser mob-violence, lynching is now tolerated against aryone in America opposed to the war or to conscription, or failing to support war funds. Women are fined 100 dollars for speaking German: men for being unemployed. A woman was conviered for saying "The Government is for the profiteers, not for the people; I do not believe the U.S.A. should have the unqualified support of every citizen in its war aims": thus becoming liable to 20 years plus a 1,000 dollar fine.

About a year ago there was an influx of American negroes into Fact St. Louis, and so, in July, 1917, the whites in Illinois killed anything up 250 of them in one day. The Boston Journal" said "They were hunteddown like rats. They were shot in the streets, they were hurned in their homes. Blocks of houses in ashes. charred-bodies in the ruins: shots fired at necroes seen arving to escape the flames: bands of armed white men roaming the streets exterminating the refugees. A negro girl seeking for safety from a band of white men is attacked by white women, and when she tries to beg for merev a white woman smashes her face with a club. An aged negro, totterier with weakness, is seiz. ed and hanged to a pole. And this all happened in the home of Abraham Lincoln, who guaranteed the black man freedom from hondage and equality before the law!"

The mantle of Trarist atrocity seems indeed to have descended upon modern militarised America, the palladium of capitalist "democracy." No wonder the President of such a country refuses peace offers with contempt. But every fresh judicial or mob crime can but hasten the day and feed the fury of the revolution when it does come. And perhaps it is as well that peace is rejected: for yet a little while let the agony be piled on.

Viganising Nutus.

We bretonia branch of the League we breessfully launched in Figursday last. Compades Mr. and Mrs. Alper kindly invited the Organiser to make use of their house, and after a talk over the position ,it was decided to organise a public meeting at the earliest possible date and get to business. Miss Rosie Alper is secretary pro. tean., address, 168, Proes St., Pretoria.

The Sunday night meetings at the Palmerston Hall are becoming an institution. The lecture last Sunday by the Organiser on "What the League stands for" was well attended, and interesting and instructive matter was brought out in questions and discussion.

At Brixton a public meeting was held as advertised, and although the audience was not large we may expect a group of comrades to be formed with a secretary in this suburb as a result of the meeting. We are indebted to Comrade Rogers for providing a hall free, and making arrangements.

There are no further developments in connection with the moulders' stike. The decision of the other workers in the engineering shops not to stop work in support is unfortunate and will make the fight longer. It is even now not too late to remedy this error by direct action. Meanwhile the power station men are paving over to the Moulders' Committee the difference between their old rate and the £8 2s. and the tramway men are also assisting generously so that over £100 per week is coming in. It is hoped that other unions will fall in line as if the moulders fail it will be a blow at the industrial movement on the Rand generally.

The message of the League on industrial organisation is being earlied into the branches of the unions on the Reef. By invitation the Organiser has addressed meetings of moulders, boilermakers, several different branches of the A.S. Engineers and the B.W.I.U., and generally the remarks on the works committee form of organisation have been well received. A good deal of literature could be distributed at these meetings if we had supplies. At Jeppes Branch A.S.E., £3 Is, was collected towards the industrial organising campaign. W.H.A.

VICTIMS.

Since last week Com. Hanscomb has found a master, but Coms. Cetviwe and Kraai have not. Readers who are employers, and can offer them a job, write to the "International" office, Box 4179, Johannesburg.

The Frisco Frame-up.

Tom Mooney was a member in good standing of the International Moulders' Union of North America, and Organiser of the Amalgamated Association of Street Car near of Son Prancisco. Assistad by his wife, a music teacher, he tried in organise the canployees of the United Railroads of San Francisco. His follow prisoners include E., D. Nolan and W. K. Billing, prominent Trade Unicate seasoned in the fight for Lahenr, and Isiael Weinberg, al-Baccative Road Member of the Jitney Bus Operators' Union. which had Talkern is (Mill Mill) in the first in the first training in one rear, the loss of which income had brought the United Railtonds-vers Sugar bankruples. Some of the accuraced have any composition with the L.W.W. The initial Rull onds is known as The first of the confidential in the self-The particular manifest labour. In 1907 At sur conduct in de troying its. Carmen's finion, and the carmon have made eight attendes or organise, the last of which we indicate worked up in Anne. 1916, by Tom Mooney."

The United Rainonds showed its teeth, and employed Detective Martin Swanson, of the Public Utilities Protective Bureau' to 'watch' Tom. Relays of armed men followed him all day and watched his house by night. At four in the morning of June 11, 1916. 300 dollars worth of high power towers belonging to the United Railroads y. were blown up by the detectives hirelings, But they made a mistake, for Biconer was at a carmen's meeting , at the time. Nothing daunted, he went ahead with the organisation of a strike, but it was broken by workers acting as spies for the bosses.

The diabolic plots of the bosses, however, did not stop there. About this time the warmongers were getting busy in America, and at San Francisco a "Preparedness Parade" was announced. The Chamber of Commerce, through its members, erdered organised labour to march in the parade or else lose their jobs. Organised labours however, refused to have anything to do with it, thus foredooming it to a comparative failure which had to be plausibly accounted for; it would not. do to publish the real reason. So hundreds of warning letters were posted to the organisers of the parade stating that the parade would ; be blown up. This news was not published, but the Labour unions got wind of it from a newspaper man, and at once issued a warning to union men to treat the parade with inaction lest the be blamed for the threatened tracedy.

Well, on July 22, 1916, "Preparedpess Day," the parade was held, but anslead of the 150,000 the bosses had originally reckoned on, it consisted of only 22,000 employers and non-union employees, marching behind society women. At 1.30 p.m. on that day, a suit case was placed against the wall of a corner building by a swarthy faced man, never since produced, and a note (which has never been produced in court) was handed to the woman leading the parade. At 2.6 a terrific explosion took place at the spot, killing ten people. Evewitnesses testified that a bomb was thrown at the suitcase, but their addresses have been concealed.

This was the Chamber of Commerce's chance. Producing a list of all those who had taken pagi in wikes against the United Pailroads, Swinson said: "See which of these were in town on the day of the explosion: and Mooney, his wife and in their three named were thus picked to to! arrest. As a matter of fact, fixer days before the explosion, Suggeon had offered Weininger 5,000 date - 1. testify against Mooney, and on fur ing Woinhard was thecatemed, factor Swarson said to a prominent San I gainciscomunicali we can keep de pate deterries municipal of it and maker the miblic think the regular office - of the law have worked an there we ear hang Billing and then gridd is THE MELLINIST STORY

District Allows, Philipper and The election to that position the Profitring hill special 100, 100 & for a was the in charge of the the case from fullowed whole ale beving of ever nev. municipal criminal wire probablished and pitape. It happiened those is often grafiaer, inking photographism Transfer interior in the contract of the contr wife on the roof of their house a title and a quarter max transfine see e of time explosion, and a street et sin a the plante, inder the mienoscopie, some ed the time as one minute mas' two. Michigant amitteliant line in the principal principal in the when the defence asked for a copy they were given a fuded one so that the time rould not be seens.

The main evidence was that a one Oaman who said he said We here drive Mooney, Mrs. Mooney, Brings and another to the seeme of the cime. When this story was disputed on a motion for a new trial, Fickert stand in the press that he had another winess. Rigall, to corroborate Oxman if new trial were held. Rigall, however, stated that, on being sent for by Ganan, he discovered that he was experted to swear away human life for mone... and refused. Oxnian was arrested in perjury. But the Chamber of Commerce attorney intervened: 10,000 dellars was produced, which Fickert pad to a lawyer to defend Oxman; the jury was packed; and Oxman was acquited! Mooney, though defended, with his. comrades, by the most eminent member of the New York Bar, was sentenced to death.

Of the other accused, Mrs. Mooney was found not guilty, though the Chamber of Commerce had employed a lawyer to assist in prosecuting her; Weinberg was found not guite by the jury after three minutes' deliberation. Yet both were, at the date of a recent report; still in gaol, and the prosecutor announced that he would try them again and hang them: (later news is that. Weinberg is now discharged after 20 months in gaol.) Nolan was released on nominal bai. Billing was sentenced for life. Mrs. Mooney has been re-arrested, but is out on bail.

By this time not only the labour unions of the U.S.A. but the workmen in Russia had become aroused, for their compatriots returned from America were deciding the "democracy" of that country by reference to this case, until Kerensky's Government perforce advised President Wilson to remove the bad impression created: especially when a hostile demonstration was made outside the American Embassy at Pet-

rograd on the news that Fickert was arving to involve Alexander Berkman of New York in the same case; which demonstration Kerensky's troops dispersed. Wilsom appointed a Comuission, whose report confirmed that the gase was a frame-up by Big Business, and that the texman affair discredited the verdiet against Mooney; and recommended a new trial. Nevertheless, the Californian anthorities have notused a rew trial; on a collinal review they have uphed the verdict and even Weinberg - Pasis Investigation of Pick eris offered halle to him to swear be drove Mooner to the second of the ex plerion mas seminally build ne effect The law camou or will not budge it Mooney's itvana. "One hope," says Almone, in the the expension of the laboration more ment and upt in the class courts of Culifornia: hand he bleads that if he trained got an Amond Irial he be put an death without that he's delay. Thus, according to the intest news received, his into have some in the harden as the and the other was a line of the solution of th ons frame-me Amount, not in Russia, but even in danced America inself.

League Mules.

JOHANESEURC BRANCH.

day last the above branch held its first meeting and is now in working order Connade Sachs is secretary, with Com. S. Barlin as treasurer. Members of the old Central. Eastern and Western Branches are asked to get in touch with one or other of the above named.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Com. Nass will attend the Sunday School on Sunday morning at eleven o'clock in Neppe's Buildings to take up his duties as superintendent. It is hoped comrades will render every possible assistance in this direction under the new auspices.

STUDY CLASS.—Com. L. A. Shoul will address the class on Friday next, the 27th inst., at eight o'clock in the Palmerston Hall. All League members are entitled to take part.

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH.

On Sunday next, the 22nd inst., Com. J. J. Hornstein will lecture at the Palmerston Hall at 8 p.m. on "Jewish, past, present and future."

On the following Sunday evening, the 29th, a social will be held at the same place, to which all comrades are welcome. Admission free.

DEFENCE DONATIONS.

List 41: G.H.O., 1s.; A.A., 10s. 6d.; M.R., 1s.; A.B.D., 5s.; V.S., 5s.; G.M., 5s.; H.B., 5s. List 44: 30s.; S.B., 49s. 6d.; A.T., 5s.; G., 20s. List 70: R.I., 10s.: H.F., 5s.; M.P., 2s. 6d.; J.H., 2s. 6d.; W.W., 2s.; A.B., 2s.; A.A.J.G., 2s. 6d.; D.P.H., 2s. 6d.; J.R., 5s.; R.W., 2s. 6d.; W.B.O., 2s. 6d.; M.P. 2s.; P.B., 2s. 6d. List 86: J.E., 10s. 6d. J.A., 100s.; M.S., 21s.; B.G., 10s. 6d.; R., 10s. 6d.; V. J.H., 5s.; H.B., 10s. 6d,; P.S., 10s. 6d.; R.B., 20s.; P.M., 2s. 6d.; S.G., 10s. 6d.; C.G., 10s. 6d.; C.P., 2s. 6d.; J.S., 10s. 6d.; M.T., 2s. 6d.; B., 2s. 6d.; A.G., 5s.; F., 5s.; M.Z., 5s.; E.E.M., 10s. 6d.; F.J.W. 10s. 6d.; P.M., 58.; B.B., 2s. 6d.

Socialism A-Building.

It is after all a sign of the times. won a President of a Chamber of Mines, in smaking to a mild curate's Minual quasi-Socialist resolution, is Amstrained to defend "the present arstum" or society, and say that it is annecessary to postulate a new one in ariler to secure what some of the parseemed to sigh for. Ten years. We are the idea that we lived under a at all, so all have seemed meaningless to such many growing assembly. Still, Mr. Walger, who goes about teaching everybuly, has much to learn: He pirates tion sating that the social revolution is Fig. 1. in the making but all be on as in that his precious Bounds of Releasing have eat, and the Whitley Report has boom issued. He says, too, that he can never get answer to the question what is mount by the Chaination of the wage system; probdie beginse he asks peable who don't Record Membrile the Soviets, notwith standing the armed attacks of Mr. Waller, Emilian all oldes, are early-Fig out 8 mediest stein dowards the i osperative Commonwealth which will. replace the mesent so-called, system to rather chaos; and Mr. Wallers, befor his next lecture, might peruso these extracts from the "Workers" Die die mehr en the Bid with the Shor extrais from various sources which we shall continue to publish from time to time on the same subject:

THE "STATE."

The Local Soviet, or Council, is composed of representatives of the industries and of the villages, one to every 500 persons. At one time the Peasants' and Workers' Councils were separate. They are now amalgamated. Only factory-workers and peasants who do not him other men and women to work for them can be electors.

The local Soviets elect representatives to the national Soviet; one representative being allotted to every 25,000 workers; thus a local Soviet elected by 25,000 people is entitled to one representative on the National Soviet. The National Soviet meets every three months. It elects an Executive of about three hundred and Ministers for the various departments of State.

WAGES.

Payment by wages, because of its convenience, still persists, but the subsistence level of the people has been largely equalised. The standard wage varies from 500 to 700 roubles a month, and those who do the hardest manual work get the highest wage. Thus an editor gets 500 roubles a month: a compositor 700. Lenin, the Prime Minister, gets 500 roubles a month and lodgings provided by the Government. The only people who receive more than the standard wage are the non-Socialist technical experts of the middle and upper classes.

The intelligent experts who were hitherto great landed proprietors, now take service with the peasants' co-operative organisations; the intelligent experts who were industrial employers engage themselves in the socialised in-

dustries.

SCRIP.

All forms of wealth are swiftly becoming socialised. Shares in the industries which have become the property of the community are, of course, valueless. But persons needing money and possessed of shares can exchange them with the Government for their money equivalent, up to the value of 10,000 roubles; the Government wi not take more than 10,00% foubles. worth of shares from any one. Some speculators who still hope for the over throw or Socialism are buving un quartities of shares at a low rate, in the hope that their old value may some day relum. Such pople are like the me with a muck rake, grovelling in the rubbish heap and refusing to see th wondrous evention of human comradeship which is arising.

FACTORIES.

Few of the factories have as yet been declared the property of the nation. But in each one there is the elected committee of workers, without the ratification of which no order can be given by the manager or employer. If a worker is dismissed from the factory his or her wages are paid in full for one and a half months, and the employer must also pay the equivalent of the employee's wages for one and a half months to the Government unemployed ment bureau.

One asks: If the industry is not yet Socialised what becomes of the surplus profit which is made after the workers have received the standard wage and the employer his salary as technical expert?" the reply is, "It goes to the factory for the time being; what will happen later is not decided."

SHOP COMMITTES.

The Moscow 'Isvestia,' the official organ of the Moscow Soviet, has a collective organisation of all the workers on the paper, the editors, office boys, cooks and so on; and no one can be dismissed without the consent of the whole organisation.

TRADE UNIONS AND PRO-DUCTION.

To assist in the technical management of industry a State Council of Production has been established and there is a district council in each province. These councils are formed of workers in the factories and representatives of trade union and professional organisations. The trade unions no longer concern themselves with ameliorating the conditions of the workers; that the workers are constantly doing for themselves in the workshop, as daily opportunity occurs or need arises. The trade unions now concentrate on improving the technique of production. and distribution and in attending to the educational requirements of their members.

LAND.

The Soviets have everywhere dispossessed the great proprietors of land, agricultural machinery and stocks; and these have now become the property of the community. The small proprietors still remain in possession, but they too will in time be brought into the Socialist scheme.

HOUSING.

Housing, long inadequate, is commandeered and rationed, as food is, on the basis of one room per individual. Though commandeered the houses have not as yet actually become the property of the community. House property is taxed over 90 per cent. Its owners are frequently glad to part with it to the Government

FREEDOM.

What is the thing which most nupresses you in your daily life under so classes we asked one of our triends.

de smiled: "Us needom!"

"But is there not a dictatorship?"
He replied: "Every government as in seme degree a dictatorship, however mild. During was the dictatorship becomes everywhere more rigorous. Here in England noo?"

the were constrained to answer

Yes, here ten.

the new country - revolution has been sampnished the Res would omary diciator-hip will relay, But in Russia tue hourgeousie, the counterrevolutionaties, have more freedom than the ordinary wonters inave here. The Russian hourgeoisie have many daily newspapers; in England you have not one Labour daily newspaper The hourgeois papers may not publish advertisements, but The Pravda,' the organ of the Bolshevik party, may not either: advertisements are a State monopolicand may univ appear in the Scviei oreans. The Russian hourgéois new spapers attack the Soviet Governmount as no paper here attacks your Government. The bourgeois counterrevolutionaries constantly hold public meetings; they have complete freedom except to bear arms, and the inoffersive bourgeois may carry arms; it is only the counter revolutionary who is not allowed to though he usually

We know that as the Czecho-Slovaks approach and if there is intervention by outside Powers, there will be assassinations, greatly as we shall de-

plore them."

In the encounters which take place between the counter-revolutionaries and the Soviet troops, the former are usually beaten. No faith should be placed in capitalist press reports concerning Russia. Come what may, our friends believe that nothing can over-throw Socialism in Russia. They face the luture with confidence.

Cersoring the Bible Again.

New York, May 8.—Joseph F. Rutherford, successor to Pastor Russell as head of the International Bible Students' Association, and five other leaders of organisations founded by Russell, were arrested in a raid by federal authorities on the quarters of the Bible Students' Association in Brooklyn to-

It is charged that the six men sought to bring about "mutiny, disorder and unrest," and to persuade men to refuse to enter military service, by articles published in the "Watch Tower," "The Bible Student," and "The Kingdom News," organs of the Russell

The Kingdom News' was suppressed by government agents last week.

Political Action.

commit a fundamental error in combatting the idea of such action, by not grasping the significance of all that is implied in the phrase. They are belogged by parliamentary action, overlooking the fact that such activity is but one phase of a whole. Taking the meaning of political action in its fullest application, it is the sum total of all activities in society, society, for the political State, having as its foundations the economic methods of production.

The narrowing down of these activities to working class requirements, or Socialist propaganda, means endeavouring to carry on within society or the political State by peaceful methods and upon the civilised plane the propaganda of Socialist principles, the carrying on of such agitation by such methods

being political action.

Capitalistic society is recognised by Socialists as being a great advance upon those that have gone before. Whilst not blind to its imperfections, we recounise that many valuable things have had to be introduced for the smooth running of the method of production. Forced by the very nature of the econonic requirements of the possessing class, many concessions have been made to the working class. In many countries laws have been framed placing all anits of the community on a nominal legal equality, with political rights. Granted these laws have been and are often distorted by corrupt officials, and one-sided decisions given against the working class, vet the broad fact remains that by keeping our movement and our agitation open and in the broad daylight, we avoid the pitfalls. that engulphed the I.W.W. when they discarded bolitical action and organised for force only.

An organisation that rejects political action places itself outside the pale of civilisation, outside of law. It discards "a weapon furnished by capitalism, it gives capitalism a weapon against itself." Political action is the one and only means by which the ideas of Socialism and the principles of industrial unionism can be placed before the masses. It is "the shield" that protects the organisation in the propagation of those essential truths that are necessary to a proper understanding of the problems that confront society.

The widest publicity to our agitation As essential to the safety and ultimate success of our propaganda. Secrecy promotes the trade of the police spy and agent provocateur. No doubt such "political action" may not ensure immunity from prosecution, for governments. like individuals, go mad and revert back to the barbarism of the past. They see certain developments taxing place in society, developments that are the natural evolution of the economic method of production; and in their frantic efforts to stay the inevitable evolution and conserve to themselves the power which possession of the economic forces gives them, they "run become guilty of crimes amok," against any ideals of justice that may be incorporated in their laws, and cast to the four winds the othics of the system that has been boosted by intellectuals as the most perfect code

that has ever existed. Such action on their part places, them in the wrong with those members of the community who may be antagonistic to Socialist ideals, but see the injustice of such uncivilised acts. It creates a psychology in our favour, leading many to enquire into our ideas, and if not convinced sufficiently to join our ranks, to become

at least sympathetic.

Political action, including parlinmentary action when necessary, musibe kept as a plank of the sociallyt platform. In conjunction with industrial organisation it is essential to the fulles propagation and realisation of our ideas. Just as all movements that have changed societies in the past have been political movements, having as their basis economic causes, so the movement that will change our present system of exploitation to a more equitable form of society must be a political movement drawing its inspiration and fighting forces from the economic antagonisms of the present, and having as its ideals the economic equality of the future society, the Co-operative Commonwealth.

J. M.G.

Note.— The passages in inverted commas are quotations from De Leon's pamphlet "As to Politics," to which are referred those who may be sufficiently interested in the much misunderstood phrase "Political action."

"VERILY, THEY SHALL HAVE THEIR REWARD."

Recently an account appeared in the Press of the death of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Stanley Maude, and shortly after an announcement was made that Parliament had voted a small gratuity of £25,000 to Lady Maude as a slight recognition of the services rendered to the country by her late husband.

Per contra, in the early days of the war a campaign was inaugurated for a pound a week pension and extra allow-

ances for children.

Mr. Bonar Law "thought it would be unwise and against the interests of the women themselves to endow widows with so much of the public money that they would never have to work."

Mr. Asquith said "he was more or less in complete agreement with Mr. Bonar Law. The scale was more liberal than that of any of our Allies. He thought it would be unwise to create a class of persons who could live in ease without ever having to work."

REFERENDUM.

Every reader is requested to write to the General Secretary, Box 4179, Johannesburg, before the 27th inst. at latest, saying "yes" or "no" to the proposal to increase the subscription to "The International" to the following:

Yearly, 10s.; half-yearly, 5s.; single copies, 3d. and signing his name. The debit bal-

ance is now £81. An error crept into our paragraph last week on this subject. It should have read: "Every new subscriber diminishes the loss."

Munchausen.

The Empire journalists have been toasting the "freedom of the Press" ---. what solemn humbug!---but even they refrained from praising its accuracy. When Renter sends to London items like this from a place we accessible is. Johannesburg, von learn te liseredit every word cabled from -a. Russia "To-day iduly 7, 1918) the tirst are mounicant was made or conceete acdion taken by the Government since the issue of General Botha's statement on the 2nd inst. Last night throughleged Intermational Socialists, in a thoras well known in Johnnersing and the third practically unknewn in the paledie, were arrested, and mids were made by the police simultaneously on the orfices, workshops and dwellings of inthree men. The utmost secreev unpreserved, thus indicating the serious. ness of the Government's action.". Then follow the names, including "Tinker, of whom little is known."

"Action taken by the Government," or "Action by Botha" as the headline reads, sounds strange, since we were told by Mr. F. S. Malan the other day that such things were the prevogative ... the Attorney General, not the Government. It is not clear which are the "two well-known" men, for it was Hanscomb who was the 'mystery' according to our local rag. Nore of the accused had the pleasure of attending any raid on their "workshops." As for "utmost secreev," why, apart from Botha's own warning on the 2nd, the coming ariest was announced to the aceused three days before it occurred, and counsel was retained on the previous day! The "International" from December to July 5 last indicated whar we expected, based on official or semiofficial threats. The whole suggestion of a gigantic treasonable and Germanpaid conspiracy, discovered in the nick of time by the uncanny genius of the Prime Minister and copied with by his equally masterly plan of campaigi (compare the de Rougemontese "revolution in South Africa' into which the Australian capitalist Press dressed my our July "strike," locally described as "a damp squib" with "no violence") ... all this points to an effort to stagger such humanity as was far enough away to be spoofed, and so to gain its approval for the continuance and extension of the traditional native 'policy' of South Africa.

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