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# THE INTERNATIONAL

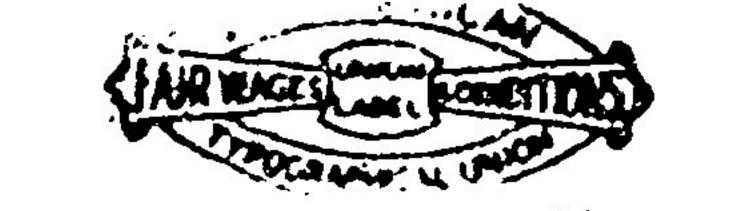
THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

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

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## From Strength to Strength

We live in red-letter days. The first birthday of Russian freedom marks also the end of the world slaughter, the foundation of revolutionary Germany and a Socialist peace: and each day brings news of fresh advances elsewhere. It never rains but it pours. We used to speak of what "would" happen under Socialism. To-day it is what "will" happen, aye, what is happening and has happened already. We need not be too fastidious over the personnel which includes the Scheidemanns whom Lenin refused to meet at Stockholm and excludes the Liebknechts, even "warning the people against Bolshevism." So it was in Russia--for eight months. Disillusionment, rapid as it has been, is not the work of a day. Nor has it been effected by brutal force of arms. The very campaign of lies practised on the workers becomes, once detected, its own best refutation, and the resulting conversion, though still very far from complete, can be trusted. Bloodshed there will be vet—outrage and atrocity it is called when the Socialists are winning. But the workers of the revolutionary countries will never again shed their blood for their bosses.

Whose turn next? What irony if it were Belgium's! After that, let it but be one of the "triumphant" greater powers, and the final goal is in sight. When will Britain rise? Lloyd George sees the "danger." In the very banqueting hall of victory he trembles. The next few years are charged with the fate of Britain and her empire, and I appeal solemnly in this first hourlet us banish faction until the Empire has been thoroughly saved.' Yes, the role of Bismarck against the Commune may after all be denied to them, forbid fraternising as they may. To-day the conquerors of the world are about to be weighed, like the conquered, in the balance. To-morrow they too will be found wanting. Hail to the oncoming Social Revolution in Britain and her Colonies! Vive l'Internationale!

# A Sicialist Africa.

The Capitalist Press is at pains to assure its readers that the Socialist Revolution in the East and Central countries of Europe is a mere product of disappointment at military defeat, and will collapse in due course as other revolutions in those countries during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have collapsed in the past. The "Mail" anust have been spending some hours looking up "Revolutions" in the encyclopaedia in its search for thoughts which shall be children to the wish. President Wilson comes forward more than ever as the literary gent with whom the word is father to the

thought. His pronouncements are limited by the necessity of turning out an elegant and interesting piece of prose, and the more foggy his ideas the more impressive his output of phrases.

It is true that the struggle for what he calls the "conquest of the world," till now waged between two Capitalist groups, has latterly been transformed into one between capitalism and Socialism. It is true that the ultimate cooperative commonwealth of Socialism must be worldwide, and so long as it is confined only to certain portions of the globe it is still in danger. What these scribes forget, ignore or do not know is that the whole course of social development leads that way in any case, and that the war only acted as a purge in hastening the expulsion of waste and decayed matter — we will make the patriots a present of that excuse for their attitude. This superficial historical research ignores the difference of economic basis between one revolution and another.

### The Social Revolution unique.

The "Social Revolution" is not like anything in history books. In them we have become accustomed to read of revolutions which, economically interpreted, have meant that "classes that have conquered power tried to consolidate their acquired position by subjecting the whole of society to their own mode of appropriation"; for "all previous historical movements were movements of minorities, or in the interest of minorities," whereas "the proletaran movement is the conscious movement of the immense majority in the interest of the immense majority"---the proletariat being "the lowest stratum of existing society" and "propertiless." Further "the proletarians cannot become masters of the productive forces of society without abolishing... property in its present form, based on the antagonism of capital and wage labour," "the necessary condition of whose existence is that the great majority of society shall be entirely propertiless."

Finally "the first step in the working class revolution is the raising of the proletariat to the position of ruling, class, the victory of Democracy. The proletariat will use its political power to wrest by degrees all capital from the bourgeoisie, to centralise all instruments of production in the hands of the State, i.e., of the proletariat organised as the ruling class, and to increase as rapidly as possible the total mass of productive forces. This naturally cannot be accomplished at first except by despotic inroads on the rights of property and on the bourgeois conditions of production... When in the course of development class distinctions have disappeared, and all production is concentrated in the hands of associated individuals... an association appears in which the free development of each is the condition for the free develop-

ment of all." "THE PROPERTY

QUESTION IS THE FUNDAMENT-AL QUESTION OF THE MOVE-MENT."

#### "No Socialism for Africa."

These grand old organ fugues of the Communist Manifesto are the most modern thing in sociology to-day. The "Mail" knoweth them not, but they are being enacted in Europe before our eves. People as unlike as the Slave and the Teutons, who Capitalism tells us must be secular race-enemies, are found treading the same path, and no. doubt in concert, under the Red Flag; and every new conquest of the Revolution makes easier its further progress. Who then can say "Socialism is not for my Country"? It may well be. that the movement is destined sooner than we have dared to think to invade. even this land of seeminoly insuperable. obstacles to its success, that has suffered less from war than from influenza. "What form will it take?" is the question. Certain it is that it will require all the wisdom. and resource of those who are ready. to welcome it, and on whom the responsibility of "seeing it through" will fall, to determine the principles and methods according to which this composite community of South Africa care best resolve itself into a co-operative common wealth.

### Our Motiey Proletariat.

The "International" need not again labour the obvious fact that the "immense majority" of the South African proletariat consists of members of the Bantu races, although not all members of those races are proletarian; and that many white wage earners, if not actually property owners, at any rate aspire to the status, and absorb the ideology, of the petty bourgeois. Bioreover, in the case of a largely rural population like that of Russia or South Africa, "the proletariat" in practice includes not only the industrial workers but the small peasants or landless agriculturists, the majority of whom in this country are again non-European. All these elements, irrespective of colour, go to make up the "ruling class" whose "dictatorship" and "mastery of the productive forces of society" is "the first step in the working class Revolution." A "hard saying" indeed, whereat many "go away sorrowful, having great possessions." It is this stumbling block that makes the 80cialist problem seem so insoluble, or the Socialist movement so difficult, in this country. Tet any labour movement that ignores or shirks it is a sham. Any revolution that still leaves a "lowest stratum" or subject class, hewers of wood and drawers of water for the rest, is only another history-book revolution; and any prejudice that would exclude such a class from equal participation, not indeed in a capitalist but in a Communist society, is at bottom not even of a racial but of a bourgeois class nature, perpetuating the antagon

ism on which existing society is based. In the last resort, it is to the inspiration and example of successful "forward, movements" in other lands, to the march of triumphant world-socialism itself, that we must look to dispel and dissolve all such apparent difficulties in the path.

### South Africa's Problem.

Now in South Africa, though the masses have developed a considerable degree of consciousness of the increasing legal and social disabilities of the native races as such, they cannot truly be said as yet to have attained classconsciousness, still less are they organised as a class for the social revolution. A little is being done in this direction, but the field is practically still uncultivated. The like applies to the "poor white" in town or country no less than to the native. A large amount of propaganda and organisation among these elements is obviously needed, as it was needed in Russia, to prepare them to take their place both in the revolution itself and in the 'administration of , things" under the Socialist Commonwealth to come. This backward or unequal development in the profetariat makes the movement here more complicated than in a European country on the one hand or a purely Asiatic or native country on the other: although, as the "International" has before remarked, we become thereby the bridge between the European and the non-European workers of the world, whom capitalism will try to keep divided and play off against each other, meanwhile using the cheaper labour as a scab army.

### Self-Help.

The proletarian revolution cannot be effected through attorneys or by proxy. The "lowest stratum" itself must raise itself. It must force admission into industrial organisation by thrust: ing sufficient spokesmen at least of the unskilled workers into mine, shop or works committees and the like. On the wider rural field, it should be comparatively easy to generate the habit of frequent meeting in free, unofficial district councils or pitsos ("Soviets" is already becoming too slangy) of "workers and peasants," all over the country (although as regards natives no doubt, notwithstanding the Moffat report, the chief business of the Native Affairs Department will continue to be by fair means or foul to thwart such meetings): and a congress of delegates from such councils should soon replace the present inefficient and unrepresentative Native Congress. In fact, the principles of the new Russian Constitution could probably be drawn upon to a surprising extent in this respect without waiting for such councils to acquire official status, which latter could however probably be extorted even under the present regime if necessary.

### The Responsibility of the "Intelligentsia."

Nevertheless, the necessity for action may be upon us before a working degree of co-operation between all sections of the proletariat (including the necessary facility of understanding each other's language) is reached. In the meantime, the experience, ability and character required to carry through the workers' revolution are found only among a minority consisting largely

although not entirely of Europeans. Hitherto the white workers have four t for themselves as whites; but it must be becoming clear to them, that as a small minority they have no hope of real success; that if hired labour and the wage system are to go they me. go for all concerned; and that under ... system providing plenty for all ther. is no reason why one should not rece as much as another, no matter whi one hews the wood or draws the wat... --so much so that even if Socialis. found General Botha washing dishes Mr. Macfie doing sanitary service, the would still enjoy its benefits at least as amply as the next man. . It follow. then that the only useful activity the minority in the movement must by an activity on behalf of the whole "lowest stratum': that as long as their backward fellow workers remain backward, they too are kept back; and that in the identical common interest of al. workers their job is to increase the knowledge, organisation and power o their weaker brethren "until co-oper. ation with them in the common cause becomes as easy as it is supposed to be between artisans all earning the sainc pay. Just as the "intelligentsia" or professional classes of Russia have had to choose between opposing the working class movement outright or taking loyal service as experts, civil servants, and the like under the proletarian flag, so our "superior" workers, if true to the cause of their class, will find themselves more and more driven to espouse the cause of the bottom dog as such until the development of the natives and "poor whites" has very much advanced. So far as they serve as leaders (though the movement has not succeeded until leaders can be dispensed with) they will be charged with a trust solely to serve the interest of their beneficiaries. Itike the foremen in Socialist Russia, they will be appointed, instructed and dismissed by their clients, the whole proletariat, white and black; whose duty in turn it will be to watch very closely against any betraval (the temptation to which will be strong) of

The Thick of the Fight.

their trust.

If the movement progresses as we hope and expect it will in other countries (and especially if it invades countries like Italy and France, members of the "victorious" group) we may reckon that the financial and cosmopolitan section of the local capitalist class will surrender in sympathy with its oversea principals without overmuch ado. It is with the agrarian section, whose "Nationalist Party" was formed to counter the incipient Socialist propaganda among the bywoners, that the hottest tussle must be anticipated. The landowners will fight to the last ditch against "despotic inroads on the rights of property and on the bourgeois conditions of production"; and will have support from race-prejudiced elements whose economic interests lie far from theirs; while the proletariat will be mostly unarmed. However, they may have to yield to pressure applied in divers ways that will occur to the reader, such as the railway strike against the Junkers recently adopted in Germany; they will have against them the momentum of an advancing world movement; and so far as they are dependent, e.g., for shipping or supplies, on other countries already socialised,

they will have to face a very formidable boycott.

### Bocialist Production.

Let us push yet, further ahead, and suppose that the proletariat has suceceded in asserting itself as the ruling class in South Africa. The gold mining industry, and with it most of the present industrial organisations dependent on it, will, under Socialism, become obsolete: or at least alluvial or outerop mining, with no phthisis involved, should be sufficient contribution to the world's gold needs. Most manufactures, under universal free exchange of products, will for long be more conveniently carried on elsewhere. The chief "instrument of production" of the country will be the land and the appliances used in connection with the land. Co-operative agriculture and stockraising, not for individual profit but for common use, will no doubt, to begin with at any rate, he the primary husiness of the organised proletariat of South Africa. Now while in "political" and other matters local Councils should be effective enough, this country is so diversely adapted in different parts to different sorts of production that a complete agricultural survey of it, such as capitalism, from its nature. has rever been able to develop, will probably be necessary from the outset. involving large-scale specialisation of activity in say, the Orange River basin, the high veld, the Natal mist belt, the Cape fruit areas, the cotton districts and so on: with railway and irrigation construction on a large scale to match. This, coupled with the backward development of the bywoners and native workers, probably points, at least in the earlier stages, to a degree of State Socialism such as would not be tolerated in Europe, aithough a Central Administration anywhere must necessarily handle such matters as transport. One incidental result of the new system might also be that segregation between white and black, ALL MOTIVE OF EXPLOITATION HAVING BEEN ELIMINATED, would for the first time become feasible, although the present white men's demand for it will meantime probably have disappeared with the rapid advance of education.

Organise Accordingly.

"Guess-work" like all this is very necessary. For it is nowadays held, and recent events have amply confirmed the view, that Labour organisation should as far as possible be designed on. lines appropriate to the eventual "taking and holding's of control of production and the means of production. Whatever elaborate systems of industrial unionism may have been evolved therefore to suit the probable direction of the Revolution in other countries, we in this country are both entitled and bound to look first to our own probable future development, and to fashion our propaganda and organisation accordingly. It is high time that all sincerely interested in the Socialist objective, whether they have yet become members of the I.S.L. or not, should get busy thinking out and discussing publicly and privately the various phases of the problem rather than mere formulas appropriate to earlier controversies. If this article, though quite likely wrongheaded, provokes such discussion, it will have served a useful purpose.

# The System Must Go.

The supporters of the Greed and Grab system have had their faith in the stability of our present form of society midely shaken. Even the yellow press is beginning to admit the possibility of Bolshevism" spreading to Western Europe, and all civilised countries.

This tardy recognition of the instability of all things, especially human society based upon the exploitation of the many by the few, is a justification of the propaganda of Socialism, and fully bears out our contention that when anything is putrid and decaying the only rational method is to destroy it. So with our present form of society. It has become decrepit and reached a stage in its development when it must pass away and give place to the new economy of co-operation.

Industrial capitalism, like all other phases of exploitation, is "its own gravedigger." It has generated the germ of its destruction by the very nature of its anatomy. It has reached that stage of development where the material forces of production are social, but the fruits of that production are enjoyed by a diminishing number, the masses being denied participation in

the result of their labour.

This antagonism of social production for the enjoyment of a small section of society cannot be remedied by reform or amelioration. Notwithstanding the strenuous efforts of the possessing class, the system is doomed. Sops in the form of co-partnerships, higher wages and better conditions of labour, which at best can only be extended to sections of the workers, leaving the greater mass entside the scope of such amelioration, will but intensify the antagonism of the present system, and create in the workers a consciousness of its brutality.

Every effort made by the capitalist class to stay the onward march of the evolutionary forces towards the Cooperative Commonwealth becomes inore hopeless. Not only do such efforts and to stay those forces, but eventually they accelerate the downfall by their very failure: for they create the psychology that forces the workers to recognise the instability of the system and the hopelessness of reform, and the clearer vision of their status as a propertiless class in a society in which they produce all the wealth, receiving in return on the average a mere subsistence.

The ruling class, who it must be remembered are but the executive of the capitalist class in control of the economic tools of production, have promised all sorts of nice things to the working class during the past four years. They have told them they are indispensable, and many who had no idea of the power of labour, and were in the habit of thanking God and their good bosses for their charity in giving them the right to labour for a bare subsistence, have had their eyes opened to things that before they were blind to.

All the efforts to stay the inevitable downfall of the present system of exploitation are doomed to failure. The writing is on the wall, standing out clear and distinct. The slimy yellow press recognises the signs of the times, as can clearly be seen from the thinly disguised lamentation that runs like a

thread of despair through all their "leaderettes." The howl against "Bolshevism" is taking a milder tone: not that they hate it less, but they are beginning to recognise its inevitableness, and are trimming their sails to the storm that will place the working class in control in all countries of the world, bringing about "peace and good will to all men"—the dream of religious emotionalists, but only to be realised under the Socialist Republic.

J.M.G.

# The Bolshevik Ann versary at Johannesburg.

West's Academy was never so crowded as at last Saturday's social in celebration of the first completed year of "Bolshevism" in power. The atmosphere was charged with an electricity that was more than retrospective, it was expectant of yet greater triumphs to come. Telegrams were read from Pretoria, Capetown I.S.L., Cape 8.D.F., and individual comrades. The address to have been given by W. H. Andrews was denied as he was confined to his room, and his place, was partly filled by the editor of this paper, some of whose observations reappear elsewhere, and partly by a letter from Com. Andrews which was read to the assembly and will bear reproducing:

Comrades! Illness prevents me from joining with you in celebrating the first. unniversary of the Russian workers' triumph over their oppressors. Tonight's rally I am confident will begin a new phase in the revolutionary working class movement in South Africa. The time for purely academic discussion is passing, or has already passed. Action is necessary. Our propaganda must proceed with increased vigour. Our paper must double and more than double its circulation and size. Pamphlets must flood the country. Public meetings must be held where and whenever possible to prepare for the day when the workers will take back their own, even in South Africa.

The Russian workers have nobly led the way. They have held aloft the Red Flag for twelve eventful months. The Balkan workers, with those of Austria, are coming into line. Most significant of all, like a solid phalanx, with their traditional order and discipline, the German workers, peasants, soldiers and sailors move like an incoming tide. Almost silently, but remorselessly, irresistibly, they advance, sweeping into limbo the old authorities, their place being taken by the delegates of the proletariat, efficiently and finally.

When the British French and Italian workers in uniform and out of it refuse any longer to act as the bullies, thugs and assassins of the tottering capitalist class, our turn will have come. Be prepared! Keep in close touch with every phase of working class activity, so as to be at hand to guide and advise when the workers begin to burst the barriers of ignorance, prejudice and passion piled up during this war. These barriers are even now giving way before the truth.

Courage, Comrades! After four years in the wilderness we are about to enter the promised land. It will not be won without a struggle, but ultimate vic-

tory is certain. Those willing to work—let them fall in and accept any duty however humble. Those who sneer and criticise and never lend a hand save as wreckers, let them stand aside lest they be hurled down and trodden underfoot by the oncoming masses moving towards the light.

Our flag—the red banner of freedom. Our coat of arms: not eagles, lions or bears, fit emblems of robber systems, but like our Russian comrades, ears of yellow corn, life giving, the hammer and sickle, emblems of useful industry in town and country, the rising sun of Socialism and peace over the bloody battlefields of capitalism.

Long live the Russian Workers' Re-

volution!

Long live the International Common-wealth of the Workers.

### League Notes,

LITERATURE. — The M.C. has placed large orders oversea for literature and is sending further orders regularly. Should comrades desire to obtain any particular volume through the League a communication (with cheque enclosed) to that effect will receive prompt attention.

### JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

PUBLIC MEETING.—On Sunday next, the 17th inst., Comrade W. J. C. Gibson will speak on "Working Class Illusions" at the Palmerston Hall, 39, Commissioner Street. Comrade S. Barlin will take the chair at 8 p.m.

STUDY CLASS.—Comrade W. H. Andrews is the lecturer for Friday next at the Palmerston Hall, commencing at 8 p.m. All League members are en-

titled to participate.

After three unsuccessful attempts the open-air meeting at Fordsburg came off on Sunday last, and quite a considerable crowd assembled to listen to the comrades. A little more advertising and this should be a very good pitch for Socialist propaganda.

### GERMISTON BRANCH.

GENERAL MEETING.—The ordincary meeting of branch members which was announced for Tuesday last, will be held on Tuesday next, the 19th inst. Time and place as usual.

### PRETORIA BRANCH.

The above branch is renewing activity (which had been suspended owing to the epidemic). As members' meeting is to be held on Sunday next and a monster public meeting is to be held on December 1. Comrades Colin Wade and H. Barendregt are announced as speakers on the latter occasion.

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# The International Flag.

It is coming!

The great moment for which the millions all over the globe yearned for decades is knocking at the door!

The great revolution of 1794 in France spread over the whole European continent, and its dying waves brought the holy tide as far as Russia in 1825, when the the first demands for liberty were silenced on the Senate Square by the artillery of Nicholas the First.

• Similarly the waves of revolution in 1848 and 1871 reached the soil of almost every country in Europe except Russia.

The father of scientific socialism, Karl Marx, then wrote: "Russia remains unaffected by the Revolutionary tide because the country is not yet industrially developed enough to change its feudal system of government for a capitalist constitution; the Russian; bourgeoisic is not vet strong enough to accomplish the changes of its western brethren, and the peasants and workers are yet too ignorant to participate in any revolutionary movement. WHEN THE TIME IS RIPE FOR A REVO-LUTION IN RUSSIA IT WILL, BE THE WORKERS WHO WILL CAR-RY THE STANDARD OF IT, AND A POLITICAL REVOLUTION IN THE EAST WILL BE THE SIGNAL FOR A GENERAL UPRISING OF THE PROLETARIAT IN THE WEST."

The prophecy became a fact. Already in 1905 the Russian revolution called forth unprecedented labour unrest in Germany, Austria, France, Italy and several small countries. That year was remarkable for an unusual participation of the masses in the First of May holiday everywhere on both sides of the Atlantic: in fact it was the first time that the festival of the International was marked by an absolute general strike in all the big industrial centres of the world except England.

Why was it that the International proletariat so readily responded to the call of the Russian revolution and remained unmoved by the Turkish, Persian, Chinese and Portuguese movements? Because the flag of the latter was only the flag of the revolution in France a century ago. The banner of 'liberty, fraternity and equality?' has no attraction for the masses of to-day so long as the last word remains purely political.

It is social freedom they want, it is economical equality they are yearning for; and as for "fraternity," the humburg of it, whether preached by the Church or by the French encyclopaedists—the absurdity of it on an earth where not all stomachs are equally filled—has been understood by them long ago.

The flag of to-day, the flag of the masses, the banner that waves over the barricades of the twentieth century and covers the martyrs of the people's cause, is the flag of Socialism. And if the Russian revolution of 13 years ago was so readily responded to by the workers of the world it was because the masses of Russia marched under the RED FLAG; because the red flag flew over the barricades of Moscow and Petrograd and adorned the houses celebrating the first victory of October, 1905. That movement screened behind fine political slogans an economic move-

ment of the workers and peasants unprecedented in history. The industries of the whole country worked an average of 175 days during that year, in which one economic strike followed another. And to the light of the great agrarian flare-up, the first victory was brought by the weapon of the worker, the GRAND GENERAL STRIKE of October.

In March, 1917, when Russia parted for ever with the Tsar's regime, was the red flag that waved over the workmen in the streets of the Russian towns; it was the red flag under which the regiments of the garrisons marched to take the oath to their people. The "National Committee" formed ha Prince Lvoff and later by Miliukoff warfrom the outset but a toy. The wetuil power was with the Soviets, as it was oven in 1905 during October: and the people showed their will. In vain the capitalists tried to postpone their destruction by waving the flag of patriciism; in vain did they try to catch the workmen with the bait of a war again-t German militarism. The reply of the worker was firm: "I begin by fighting militarism, or rather the cause of capitalism, at home, and let the German proletariat and also those in the countries of our Allies do the same

Then came the great day on which the Socialist Commonwealth hogan to be established in Russia, and the red flag for the first time because

the flag of a country.

Since then the capitalists of the world have done all in their power bring it down, yet still they live, the Soviets! And not only do they live, but the seed carried from the east beginning to blossom in the west. I.: not the capitalists think that with the fall of the German armies a free roud will be opened for them to crush time Bolsheviks in Russia and Germany 10gether. If this were possible Germa: itself would have done it long ago. A year ago Lenin said that he was doing more for the fall of Prussian mijtarism than the Allied armies, and that when it came to the push the G.-man workers would refuse to inval. Russia but would join hands with ... Red Guards: and so it is happening

Yes, messieurs les capitalistes, do not cherish false hopes. The majority of the workers could be deceived and skilfully lured into a war against another capitalist flag, but you will not get them to fight the red flag. When the holy banner is once unfurled the international proletariat will forget its internal quarrels and will rise as one to fight the battles of its own class.

S. BUIRSKI.

### MOULDERS AND A.S.E.

The levy of one shilling per week voted by the A.S.E. members in aid of the moulders on strike will be a very welcome addition to the funds, there being 4,000 members leviable.

The locking out of various mechanics in the engineering shops has begun, and of course a careful selection of the most active union men will be made.

If, as seems exceedingly probable, most of the shops have to close down, the A.S.E. men will be forced by the masters into the position that they refused voluntarily to take up. Unfortunately the good men not the crawlers generally suffer.

# Co-ogerative Employees' Strike in Britain.

It may be interesting to the supporters of the Federation Co-operative sicieties on the Rand to consider what has happened in Britain, the pioneer country of that movement, during the last few months.

The co-operative movement employs, 140,000 people, of whom 83,000 belong to the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees and about 10,000 to various craft unions, e.g., clerks, shop assistants, bakers, etc.; the otlers

are unorganised.

In August and September last over 10,000 members of the A.U.C.E. vere on strike, first for recognition of their union and secondly for increased wages. The Co-operative Wholesale Society fought the strikers as bitterly as any ordinary capitalist enterprise. As an example of how this working class enterprise run on capitalist lines acts, take the following. On its estate at Roden, in Shropshire, a branch of the society was formed in the oren air on a dark night, because the C.W.S. officials refused the use of their room for that purpose. The workers there went on strike for more money, their wage being: women, 20s., men, 333. per week of 56 to 62 hours. The C.W. S. did not hesitate to use as blacklegs women of the land army who are under . military discipline, and the Trades Union Congress at its annual meeting endorsed and supported the action of the C.W.S. by two to one. Thus does craft sectionalism backed by dividend-hunting co-operation fight as savagely as the out and out capitalist against the industrial form of organisation. Though the A.U.C. is called by the typos, shop assistants and others a blackleg union, its members have the satisfaction of knowing that they are organising industrially on the modern scientific method, the method that wins immediate benefit; the method that will persist when the old pettr sectionalism has disappeared, right on into the time when self-controlled industries shall constitute the industrial co-operative commonwealth.

That is why they are hated and feared by the craft unions as well as by the C.W.S. Unless the co-operative societies, retail as well as wholesale, recognise the principle that all industry must be run by those engaged therein and not by the shareholders or "consumers" beloved of the bourgeois politician, then their organisations must be forcibly taken from them when the time comes for the workers to resume control of all industries.

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