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Uncabled Mutiny.

The editor writes (to himself): "Why write leading articles nowadays? These are days of action. Events to-day are themselves the best Socialist propagan-12, as the cable interruptions testify. Example, from Russia, Germany or even Britain, is the finest precept. Even our local speciality, solidarity between black and white workers, is being inculcated better by current happenings, such as the unconcern of the native building workers in their white fellow workers' strike, than we can do with hundreds of words on our front. page." And so this week, while breathlessly awaiting news of the yet more epoch-making movement of Britigh Labour, we cannot do better than subjoin an up-to-date object lesson from England, reported in the London "Herald," but for obvious reasons far less interesting to Reuter than cablegrams about the Queen's jewels or Solly Joel's investments.

It began on Friday morning (January 3rd, 1919) at Folkestone; it spread in a flash to Dover, Osterley Park, Shortlands, Sydenham, Grove Park, Shoreham, Kempton Park, Park Royal, Aldershot, Maidstone, Chatham, Bristol. Fairlop, and even to a detachment in London supposed to entrain for Salonica; and it is not ended yet—not by a long way.

long way.

Two months ago the armistice was signed. For two months the armies--and not alone at home—have been demanding their release. For two months the magnates have been shivering in their buttoned boots at the prospects of a new spirit in the home-coming armies of war which are to become the armies of industry. And for two months the-War Office has been playing ca' canny -issuing millions of incomprehensible forms, first, out of incompetence, secondly, for political reasons. Discharge became demobilisation; demobilisation became a maze of millions of miles of red tape and circulars.

After the official reveille had been sounded at Folkestone on January 3rd there was no parade, for the sufficient reason that no one turned up. But on their own signal—three taps of a drum—two thousand men, unarmed and in perfect order, demonstrated the fact that they were "fed-up"—ab-so-lute-ly "fed-up." Their plan of action had been agreed upon the night before: no military boat should be allowed to leave Folkestone for France that day or any day until they were guaranteed their

freedom.

It was sheer, flat, brazen, open, and successful mutiny. They knew it, and they did it.

Pickets were posted at the harbour.

Only Canadian and Australian troops were to be allowed to sail—if they wanted to. As matter of not very surprising fact, they didn't want to. One

officer tried to interfere. He leaped across a gangway, and got a rough house. 'I am a relative of Sir Douglas Haig,' one general officer pleaded. 'We are all King's Messengers,' said another party. But nothing of that kind availed them.

The Gathering Forces.

Meanwhile, troop trains were arriving at Folkestone with more men returning from leave and on the way to France. These were met by pickets, and no more than the mildest persuasion was needed to divert the men to the rest camps. There, in a mass, they joined the demonstrators.

On Saturday, an armed guard of Husiliers was posted at the guays by the Army authorities. They carried fixed bayonets and ball cartridges. The pickets approached. One rifle made a show of going up; the foremost picket seized it, and forthwith the rest of the

guard fell back....

The mutineers visited the station in a body, after having posted their own harbour guards, and tore down a large label, "For officers only," which was posted above a comfortable waiting room. I mention this as it typifies one of the many causes of the trouble—the bitter resentment felt at the easy conditions of the officers as compared with those of the men. Another cause of trouble, about which I heard on every hand, was the poorness of the food. The Cherry Gardens Camp was particularly mentioned in this regard.

A Soldiers' Union.

On Saturday, a great procession of the soldiers concerned, swelled by now to about 10,000, marched through the town. And everywhere the townsfolk showed their sympathy. At midday a mass meetin decided to form a Soldiers' Union. They appointed their officials and chose their spokesmen—every one, be it noted, a Trade Unionist. This again I wish to emphasise, because of the attempts in some organs of the Press to show the whole movement as one of jealousy towards the organised workers at home.

Recognition.

By now the telephones and telegrams between London and Folkestone had done their work. And the Bhig Whigs from London, including Sir William Robertson, were arriving in Folkestone. True, their counterparts in France had refused to meet the representatives of the German Soldiers' Council (with proper class-consciousness they preferred the German Junker), but they had to meet the English soldiers' representatives. They just had to. There was no alternative. This, mind you, is in ENGLAND. Not in Bolshevist Russia. Here was 'recognition' without a vengeance!

The fact that there was a conference at all was the supreme victory for the mutineers. And indeed for democracy. To my mind it was an even greater victory than the result of the conference,

though that was a total relief of every one of the men's immediate grievances. All men with jobs open to them were promised immediate demobilisation; men with prospects of jobs were given a week's leave in which to make those prospects certainties; and finally, a complete indemnity was given to the mutineers, the generals explaining that they "would forget the incident." But they won't—not for a long time.

Folkestone's Last.

That does not close the Folkestons story. Workers' control gave the Demobilisation Department another lesson. The men elected 140 of their number to act as clerks. These clerks in one day issued all the necessary pass papers, ration books, and railway warrants for the whole camp. On Sunday the camp was clear, and the latest to leave were the leaders of the movement, who watched their last comrade go free before they went free themselves.

Other Incidents.

At Osterley Park, 1,500 A.S.C. men, mostly 'bus drivers in civil life, broke camp on January 6, and seized a number of Army lorries. On these many scores of them travelled to London to voice their demands. A highly-placed officer tried to browbeat the men without success; and the same terms were 'conceded' to them as had been given to their comrades at Folkestons.

At Shoreham, 7,000 men demonstrated; at Shortlands, 1,500 men; at Dover, about 4,000. I understand that at Boulogne, Calais and Etaples strange and ominous events on the same lines have happened. In London 400 men who were to be entrained for Salonica refused to go. Everywhere the feeling is the same: "The war is over, we won't fight in Russia, and we mean to see home."

Yes, Router watched it right enough

However, this was cabled:— London, Saturday, February 1.—The "Daily Chronicle" states that eight seamen from a British destroyer are charged at Devonport with mutiny. The prosecution states that the men refused duty at sea because the commander refused to create three watches instead of two. When the commander went ashore the men hoisted a red flag. though they hauled it down at the commander's order. One of the accused declared that half the British Navy was on strike and the remainder soon would be. They refused to work in two watches on the existing pay.

I wonder the working people are so quiet under the taunts and insults offered them. Have they no Spartacus among them to head a revolt of the slave class against their political tormentors?—Richard Cobden, 1861.

On the 19th inst. Tom Nortje, of Vrededorp, long an active worker for Socialism, was married at Johannesburg to Miss Blanche Beaton.

No Bolshevism.

No Bolshevism 'is the latest substitute for 'Defence not defiance.' Let workers but show an ounce of spunk, and they are asked by their leaders who want to see them defeated 'What? Do you want Bolshevism?' 'Never, never, never,' say some of these British slaves, slinking away terrified at the word as the devil cowers before the uplifted crucifix; with this difference, that they have not the least idea what it means, like the Durham Castle sailors dancing to a piping whose origin they know not, or dogs or children made to perform humiliating antics to amuse visitors.

A recent cartoon depicted the masses panic-stricken at the display of a lion's head and skin, labelled "Bolshevism," on a stick manipulated behind the scenes by Lloyd George and his gang. It would have been truer to life if it had shown the bogy as worked by the bosses through Labour leaders and

other intermediaries.

The pulpit, horrified at the thought of losing easy money, the Press, guardian of liberty (to exploit), Labour Secretaries, guarding union funds so that salaries may be secured, politicians with four hundred golden reasons, brothel keepers, spieling club managers, comedians, etc.—all unite in the parrot cry "No Bolshevism."

Under the spell of this dread incantation the tramwaymen in the "Capital Dorp" still hesitate to take over the running of the trams, even though the actual owners would welcome the procedure, failing as yet to see that the tin pot Town Council of Pretoria is to-day merely a capitalist Soviet sabotaging the whole population of that town.

In the "Dorp of Capital" the Masters' Voice is heard prompting the same cry. Scared by that crow, building workers still hesitate about taking over the contracts, or making common cause with the native workers in the industry—or including "Hands off Rus-

sia' in their demands.

One feature, however, seems common to the English and local strikes—a distrust of Joint Boards, and of the Craft Union officials who dabble in them, coupled with a determination to realise 'local autonomy' in the shape of organisation in workers' committees on the job. That feeling is behind our miners' growl about the Phthisis Fund (so swelled that, it is alleged, Government has ceased to contribute to it): and that was the sense of the footnote to the English report on Joint Standing Industrial Councils in which even reformist Labourites said that "such machinery cannot be expected to furnish a seitlement for the more serious conflicts of interests involved in the working of an economic system primarily governed and directed by motives of private profit."

And a hopeful feature of local labour unrest is the very evident desire on part of the workers to obtain light. Socialist literature is easily sold and is being read more and more, while on all sides the masses are eager to hear

the message:

Latterly, indeed, the enemy are giving themselves away quite recklessly. Sir Evelyn Wallers, less clever at saying nothing than President Wilson, allows his delight at hatching an epigram to betray him into an avowal that the

question of the hour is how to make democracy safe for the world. The conundrum "who is the world?" can be correctly answered by any Socialist Sunday scholar. And last night our Star of Eve comes right out with a "regret that Labour did not obtain more seats in the present House of Commons"! The conundrum "What is the use of the Labour Party?" is hereby put to Colonel Creswell and his merry crew. Thus is "democracy" explained—away.

The "guts" will come when the instinctive "unrest" ripens to class consciousness. That stage reached, who shall say a Russian or German fights better than a "Frenchman, Turk or Henglishman"? And there are many signs that even where Imperialism is most rampant the "No Bolshevism" stunt is daily losing its efficacy after

all.

S. & H.

The Strike and the Scribes.

Judging from the result of the last Building Strike Ballot-634 to 7-I am inclined to believe these seven spineless heroes are regular correspondents to the "Star": and if the "Star" is paying them at the same rate it charges for advertisements, they are doing well on strike. "Britannia" (some nom-deplume that, what?) states that "this struggle is going to involve thousands. of pounds." Whose? His? "It behoves us to think, and not be led by irresponsibles." Pas op, Tyler, Blake, Smith, and other Reds, we are going to start thinking. You should be "reasonable," "put your cards on the table" (yes, and turn your back for one minute and they'd all be marked), and "come to some amicable settlement." "Elect an arbitrator": certainly, the Organiser of the I.S.L., say, would suit us just as well as McFie would them. You strike leaders must be aware that you are dancing on the boss's corns; don't vou see that vou are taking a mean advantage by demanding a reduction of hours, and that if this thing goes on "the demand for labour will become greater than the supply," which would give the worker a choice of jobs, and the only men out of work would be the stiffs and never-works? You see then in what a predicament you are putling the ruling class. And especially in these days the workers should not run amok. Why, the capitalists' procurers would be wondering how to get sufficient men to carry the rifle or club. seeing that they were all employed! So Lagain appeal to you to be reasonable. You must allow them to keep a reserve of a few thousand on the verge of starvation so that when they require their services the hait of 3s. per day and food (ah-food, "that's when they laugh"). finds the usual response and provides once more the material for clubbing and crushing the workers into subjection.

One more word to "Britannia." He speaks of the sum that was handed him from the levy as "a few paltry shillings." You swine! That's the result of about fourteen hours' labour, ungrudgingly handed over by a fellow worker to uphold the principle of unionism. "Get off your knees, man."

H.A.D.

Branch Notes.

BENONI.

The Social and Dance takes place next Wednesday, March 5, at the Hotel Cecil. Tickets, 3s. 6d. Comrades from a distance will be especially welcome. If the complimentary tickets are available for them, apply at Head Office, or to the Dance Secretary, Com. N. Gershaw.

At the Boksburg North meeting last Tuesday J. den Bakker presided over an interested and attentive audience. The speakers were W. H. Andrews and E. Thomas. The collection and sale of "Internationals" and literature were

highly encouraging.

CERMISTON.

The Study Class will meet at Com. Wade's Surgery, on Tuesday next, March 4, at 7.30 p.m.

The Study Class will meet on Wednesday, March 5, at the Palmerston Hall. Com. Adler will speak on "Nationalism and Internationalism."

JOHANNESBURG.

Open air meetings, all at 7.30 p.m. Saturday, March 1.—Market Square, Fordsburg: J. Black, W. J. C. Gibson, S. Ginsberg.

Saturday, March, 1.—Cr. Marshall and Maddison Sts., Jeppes: H. Barenderegt, E. H. Becker, T. R. M. White.

Sunday, March 2.—Town Hall (West End): C. Dones, T. P. Tinker, C. B. Tyler.

Saturday, March 8.—Market Square, Fordsburg: H. Barendregt, W. Reid, T. R. M. White.

Saturday, March 8.—Cr. Maddison and Marshall Sts., Jeppes: E. H. Becker, J. Black, R. Rodger.

Sunday, March 9.—Town Hall (West End): S. P. Bunting, E. J. Stewart, T. P. Tinker.

Branch Meeting on Tuesday, March 4, at Palmerston Hall, at 8 p.m. Important business, including the matter of the "delegates" from Russia now in Johannesburg.

Study Class on Friday, March 7. Com. R. Rodger on "The philosophy of Socialism from a scientific standpoint."

Cinderella Dance on Wednesday, March 12, at 8 p.m., at West's Academy, 125, Pritchard St. Tickets, 2s. 6d.; ladies, 1s. (at door). Refreshments provided.

Socialist Sunday School every Sunday at 11 a.m., at Neppe's Buildings,

54, Fox Street.

PRETORIA.

Sunday, March 2.—Public meeting at Federation Hall, at 8 p.m. Speaker: E. Stewart.

Monday, March 3.—Study Class at Federation Hall.

Sunday, March 9.—Open air meeting on Church Square. Speakers: C. Wade, T. P. Tinker. Commence 8 p.m.

Educational meeting every Wednesday evening at Federation Hall.

The Secretary-Organiser by request visited the tannery workers at Silverton on Saturday, and an organisation was started which with assistance from comrades outside should make for obtaining better conditions for these badly exploited workers. The public meeting in the evening on Church Square was well attended. Comrades Stewart and Andrews spoke.

Republicanism: Whither does it Lead?

The Republican campaign may have more far-reaching consequences, than we have yet imagined, and its effect on the revolutionary movement in South Africa needs to be taken into account. On the face of it, it seems absurd for w party seeking to accomplish its purpose by a majority to go outside and attain that purpose by intervention or some means not yet divulged. We are not told what the Nationalist deputation will ask for. Will it ask for Wilson's moral support, or an assurance from the Powers that they will not thwart by. military intervention the expressed will of a majority here?

It has been demonstrated that the Imperialist opposition to Nationalism and vice-versa, although ruthless and bitter, does not rest on fundamental antagonisms. Nationalism is inconvenient and harassing to capitalist expanses not to the capitalist system. When the 'pitalist system is imperilled by the proletarist, petty nationalism is then capitalism's Old Guard; it is unleashed to massacre the Social Revolution, as in the case of the Poles, Ukrainians, Czecho-Slovaks etc. Lloyd George's objection to the Nationalists will be: "We don't want you yet."

We have Sinn Fein so far as an exception. But tan the crowd of farmers, lawyers and small landowners who form the leadership of Nationalism in this country be looked upon as intransigeants to the bitter end? No! Their interests are bourgeois. We can only hope to sever from them their poor white and proletarian following—that following which when the hour strikes will be armed to crush the revolutionists and slaughter the native workers, if that same following is "loyal" to its masters.

An interesting item appears in a "Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant" of November last, in which the opinion is expressed that unless Smuts returns with a handsome present of increased independence" a Dutch Government will appear in South Africa with a strongly marked nationalist tendency. "Or would it be possible that President. Wilson should see to it that the question of an independent Republican Gov. ernment, at least in the late Republics, should be settled by a plebiscite? We remind our readers of a motion of Deputy Cary in the American House in April last rear, expressing the wish that the Transvaal and Orange Free State should be restored to independence. This motion was accepted, and referred to the Committee for Foreign Affairs in the Senate."

That sounds interesting: America just waking up to the fact that there was a Boer War! Incidentally also American capital increasing its interest in South African industry! Traditions of Queen Victoria make it awkward to exploit our army of cheap labour properly, and pitchfork them off the soil. What more useful in this direction than

Nationalist Republic, whose chief mark to posterity will be its firm conviction that the 'Kaffirs' have no souls and are created in the Devil's image to be slaves for the whites?

No one in the Nationalist or Imperialist camps has the sinister intentions

of these possibilities. But bourgeois psychology moves instinctively towards the attainment of bourgeois interests without formulating them too far in advance. It is the task of the Socialist movement to detect them and forestall their tendencies by propaganda.

That is to say, with a Nationalist Government, the Afrikander will become ripe for Socialism. And the sooner Hertzog resumes his pick-handle sceptre the better.

"CINCINNATUS."

Why Liebknecht Revolted.

Here comes a preliminary ray of light on the Spartacus revolt in Berlin, and the martyrdom of our great Comrade Liebknecht. To many of us there was much that was puzzling in the tactics of the Spartacists. Had Liebknecht suddenly thrown over those principles of Marxism which breathe through every page of his? "Anti-Militarism" for instance? Having obtained the supremacy of the Workmen's Councils, the structure of revolution, why did he not, like Lenin, wait and work for a Bolshevik majority within the Workmen's Councils?

The answer to this is partly given by an item of news under the "Diary of the Social Revolution" in the "Cambridge Magazine."

"Neukoelln (Berlin), Dec. 16.—The Workmen's and Soldiers' Council, who are adherents of the Spartacus Group and have ruled Neukoelln since the revolution began, areejected by a detachment of the 64th Infantry Regt., which forms the garrison. The troops also take possession of the Magistrate's Court, the Telephone and Postal Bureaus, and the Town Treasury. Ten members of the Executive Committee are arrested, but liberated by order of Eichhorn (Chief of Police). A new Council to include the Majority Schialists and soldiers of the 64th is being formed."

Thus we see that the tactics of anarchy were those of the Majority Socialists, who used the troops to stamp out any Soviets having Spartacus tendencies, leaving the Spartacists no weapon but the barricades. As in Russia, it is the bourgeoisie and its tools that impose the Reign of Terror.

At a meeting of Russian Jewish people last Sunday a proposal was made, on the suggestion it is understood of certain travellers (not "escaped") from that country, to raise funds for the relief of persons "oppressed by the Rolsheviks" there. The idea was opposed, one speaker reading a letter written only six weeks earlier from Riga, telling relatives here how good conditions were in that town and advising compatriots in South Africa to come at once to Russia and share the happy conditions there prevailing.

At St. Mary's Hall, Polly Street, last night a packed meeting of native workers met under the auspices of the Industrial Workers of Africa. Many speakers urged the need of industrial unity. Comrade T. P. Tinker spoke at some length, and Com. W. H. Andrews said a few words towards the close of the meeting. A similar meeting will be held next Thursday.

Only Niggers.

Wednesday's "Star," reporting an explosion at Modder B, says it "led to much anxiety as to the safety of white men. Enquiry at the mine this morning gives the assurance that there have been no fatalities amongst white men." But "six natives were killed, and 47 injured." In the next paragraph another accident is reported costing four more native lives; and another native fatality on a third mine. Bah! Who cares? Nameless they die and are buried, not for them is "anxiety" felt. Hooroo for the White Labour Policy!

That Blessed Word,

COTT MIT "UNS."

Rev. J. T. Parfitt, twenty years Canon of Jerusalem, at the Greenock Philosophical Society, on November 22, 1918, lecturing on "A New East," said:—

"The present opportunity was the best we have ever had to achieve inighty things in this remarkable part of the world. Palestine did not offer commercial advantages, only strategic, but Mesopotamia was rich in prospects. Why, the oilfields which we had just taken over a few days before we signed the armistice were worth ten thousand million pounds, and were the finest in the world. . . . We had not sought territorial expansion in the East, yet in Palestine and Mesopotamia we had gained enormous advantages, and were prepared to take up the White Man's burden."

Councillor J. A. Clark, of Johannesburg, made an incorrect statement to the Bribery Commission as to the circumstances under which he ceased to be a member of the I.S.L. It was not a case of resignation but of expulsion; and it arose not out of the League's native policy, but out of the action of Mr. Clark on the Provincial Council regarding certain amendments to the Shop Hours Ordinance. The facts were set out in detail in the 'International' of April 13, 1917.

The report of the Australian I.W.W. Commission is described by the "Worker" as "most amazing." "It brands the principal witnesses as utterly unreliable and unscrupulous persons when they testify against the police, yet accepts their evidence against the I.W.W. prisoners as sufficiently trustworthy to justify the convictions; whereas, by the judge's own test of a desire to secure their own safety,' they had powerful reasons for telling lies about the I.W.W. prisoners and no reason at all for telling lies about the police. The narrowing of the scope of the enquiry to definite charges against the police rendered it impossible for us to accept the Commission as an honest attempt to get at the whole truth of the matter. Neverheless it is now established beyond dispute that the L.W.W. prisoners are in gaol on the testimony of men who were in the power of the police, who wanted to placate the police, and were ready to lie atrociously to save their own skins. We will never rest until. the men condemned upon this rotten evidence are released."

The New World.

The working class, in response to the politicians, priests, editors, Labour misleaders and other apologists of the copitalist class, surrendered many of the barriers erected against their foes employing class. They were told the new world to be reared upon the ruins of the old, of new conditions. iratemise and life be made more tolerander which capital and labour would drawers of water, who too long had Been denied participation in the culture modern civilisation. They accepted glib promises made by a class that has never refrained from using any weapons, from gatling guns to insidious cajolery, to retain its dictatorship.

The new world promised by these. spokesmen of the capitalist class can never be realised. The war has intensified the capacity of the productive forces a hundred-fold. It has evolved economic conditions that can not be controlled by the capitalist class. They never did control the system, and have less control to-day. They are confronted with the problem of continuing the production of commodities for the world's markets, in countries where the workers are demanding higher wages and a share in the luxuries of life.

This demand for higher wages will render it impossible for commodities produced in European countries to compete with commodities produced in China, Japan, India and other countries where the cost of production is

The granting of higher wages in the past did not necessarily mean the lessening of profits, inasmuch as better erganisation, efficiency, an expanding range of markets and little competition in those markets enabled such demands to be granted. But to-day the competitors in those markets will be faced with the products of findustrial countries where the raw material is at their doors 'so to speak, with a working class whose line of subsistence is much below the

European standard.

The new world in the sense of a better world for the workers can never be realised under our present system of production for profits. The capitalist class can never realise it without committing economic suicide. The promises made were but camouflage to hoodwink the workers into seeing the war through. "All movements in the past that have transformed societies, have been unconscious movements." This movement on the part of the workers is unconscious. They as a class are demanding that these promises must be kept. As yet they are under the delusion that they can be kept. Hence the many strikes in all-action to tell how the enemies murderindustrial countries. Blindly to-day they are demanding what the system. cannot give them. To-morrow will come the awakening to the futility of such reforms and palliatives, clearing their mental vision and revealing to them their historic mission as the saviours of society. The system has reached the end of its development. With all its seeming outward appearance of strength and stability it is but an empty shell, requiring but the awakened consciousness of the working class to crush it and in doing so to inaugurate the Co-operative Commonwealth.

Pretry Scheidemann's Way.

"Labour" Governments will attempt work too dirty for avowed capitalist

On November 5 a lieutenant, with 27 men and two machine-guns, was sent to the Neustadt suburb of Berlin with orders to hold up all trains from Hamburg and Kiel and send back all soldiers and sailors coming to the capital.

When the next train arrived, however, the lieutenant saw it contained women and children as well as sailors, so he did not fire, and eventually persuaded the sailors to return to Elamburg after he had provided them with food.

In the evening, he received the following message from the command in

Berlin:

"A train is coming from the direction of Wittenberg—between Hamburg and Berlin-with mutineers, well armed. Derail the train at all costs and open fire with machine-guns and whatever other weapons you have on everything moving."

In this train also were large numbers of women and children, and sailors, soldiers and women emerging from the train suddenly saw themselves faced by machine-guns in all directions. There was a panic, but the lieutenant explained the situation, and in the confusion people entered the train, which resumed its journey. Shortly, afterwards came a rebuke from Berlin to the officer for having "negotiated" with the mutineers, and a fresh order-"that a new train with mutineers was on the way, and that, regardless of who was in it, it must be derailed, and everybody in it mercilessly shot down."

Knowing that the earlier train contained 2,000 persons, including many women, the officer, on receiving this barbarous order, collapsed, and had to be carried away unconscious. Nobody among the military on the spot would undertake to carry out the order, and so the train passed through uninter-

rupted to Berlin.

"In a time of war, the nation is always of one mind, eager to hear something good of themselves, and ill of the enemy. At this time, the task of news writers is easy: they have nothing to do but to tell that a battle is expected, and afterwards that a battle has been fought, in which we and our friends, whether conquering or conquered, did all, and our enemies did nothing. Secondly, nothing awakens attention like a tale of cruelty. The writer of news never fails in the intermission of ed children and ravished virgins. And, if the scene of action be somewhat distant, he scalps half the inhabitants of a province. Among the calamities of war may be justly numbered the diminution of the love of truth, by the falsehood which interest dictates, and eredulity encourages. A peace will equally leave the warrior and narrator of news destitute of employment; and I know not whether more is to be dreaded from streets filled with soldiers accustomed to plunder, or garrets filled with scribblers and accustomed to lie." -Dr. Johnson, November 30th, 1758.

Class War on the Baltic.

It was wrong for Germany to rob Russia of Courland, Esthonic, Livonia and Lithuania. But it is worse for Russia to take them back again! When the people of Riga demonstrated against the Allied landing, "troops succeeded in dispersing the mob, but not before several people had been killed and injured." The "Vossiche Zeitung" has been advocating united action by Germans. British and Lette against the Bolsheriks, and indicates that volunteers from Germany financed by England are actually doing the fighting. .Compare the sighs of Berlin bourgeois for Yanks, Scots, or even Negroes to stem the Spartacists; and who knows but what they got them?) Again, we read of "Esthonian warships" in the London press, reminding us of the famous "Transvaal fleet" of 1899. Obviously they are Allies' ships. As the "Daily News" says, "the Entente is determined to starve out Soviet Russia."

"The Isvestia" (Bulletin) of December 8 publishes a decree of the People's Commissioners recognising the independence of the Republic of Esthonia. The Soviet Government of Russia has instructed the Russian civil and military authorities in Esthonia to support the authority of the Esthonia Council in its struggle for the liberation of the country. The People's Bank has advanced 10,000,000 roubles for the disposal of the Council of the Esthonia Republic." What's this? We were told that Esthonia was fighting Russia. Once more, the Allies are backing one "Esthonia" against the other, as they are backing one Russia and one Germany, aye, one England and France, against the other—in other words, the capitalist class against the working class in these and all other countries.

In these days when the "International" is finding an ever widening circle of purchasers, we would urge on non-subscribers that they cannot afford to miss a single week's issue of the paper as they are liable to do from time to time if they depend on buying it in the streets. It costs 9d. more per annum to become a regular subscriber, and it's worth it to get your paper delivered regularly by post week in week out. So send along your 5s. to Box 4179. Johannesburg, without more delay; you can commence an annual subscription at any time, it runs for a year from date of commencement.

Next Thursday, at 8 p.m., a meeting called by some members of the S.A.M.W.U. will be held at the Masonic Hall, Boksburg North. Speakers: H. Barendregt, S. P. Bunting and T. P. Tinker.

This paper will be posted for four weeks only (a) to subscribwhose subscriptions have expired, from date of expiry; (b) to persons recommended as likely subscribers.

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