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THE INTERNATIONAL

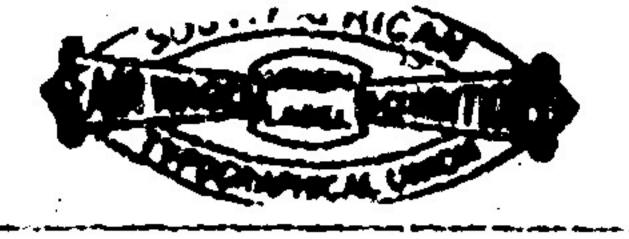
THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

P.O. BOX 4179.

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No. 175



FRIDAY, MAR. 14, 1919.

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

The "Home Enemy."

If anything is calculated to breed. rumour mongering, it is the peace censorship, far more drastic than the war censorship, of news at the hands of the Imperialist Governments. From Germany alone some truth is allowed to break through, presumably on the already obsolete ground that it is sufficient deterrent against imitation of a movement that it takes place in Hunland. From America we hear nothing of the Labour movement; from Australia we have had silence for over a month; from France a "Mail" article incautiously let fall a hint of Labour unrest, that is all; from Russia we all know the stuff we get, and that all communication of bona-fide truth or private correspondence is rigorously stopped—they daren't face it. Of British Labour we have not had a word since we read of the 'grave crisis' a couple of weeks ago.

Peculiar significance may therefore reasonably attach to recent exceptions such as the Folkestone mutiny, reported by mail; or the German leaflet propaganda among the British Wacht am Rhein troops in direct pursuance of the similar Russian propaganda among the German invaders as well as among Allied and also Oriental troops; or the "riot" of Canadian troops in which the arrest of civilians, presumably propagandists, is a feature that speaks volumes. Here again is a paragraph from "Cassell's Saturday Journal" of January 18 last:

"The Army trouble. The active protests of our soldiers against the delay in demobilising, to call it by a mild name, did not begin at Folkestone or anywhere else in England. There has been trouble with some units in France, and deplorable scenes occurred there a few weeks ago. The news of these was carefully suppressed, but their effect is now being seen over here. If the situation is tactfully handled, nothing serious will result, but Sir Eric Geddes will have to wake up."

"At Shortlands two days after the Folkestone affair," says the "Call," "and then throughout the A.S.C. in the London district, elected soldiers' committees worked out demobilisation schemes of their own which the authorities have had to accept. Simultaneously, the next day, at Osterley Rark and Blackpool, the soldiers' committees drew up programmes which dealt not only with demobilisation, but also with the reduction of training, the improvement of conditions, and the abandonment of drafts for Russia! At Larkhill there is talk of incendiarism and going home without permission of the authorities if every man with work to go to is not released in a month. Practically every aerodrome on Salisbury Plain has its airmen's committee now.

If no news is as good news as all this, we can understand the complaint that the Peace Conference has done nothing. We can with good grounds anticipate that it never will do nothing, but will collapse of futility, and no peace ever be signed.

"Property of the Nation."

BOURCEOIS PROCLAMATION.

NATIONALISING WORKERS.

Horrible details of the Bourgeois "nationalisation," of working men, women and children are given in proclamations which were posted at London, Paris, Berlin, New York, etc., and were given effect to in an unlimited degree. They include the following:

This decree is proclaimed by the free association of Capitalists (i.e., anarchists) of the world.

The private ownership of working men of military age is abolished. All such workers are proclaimed the property of the whole nation (i.e., of US). The distribution and management of appropriated workers is transferred to the War Council. Each employer wishing to use such a piece of public property should obtain for him an exemption certificate and prove that he (the employer) belongs to the ruling class. All men proclaimed by this decree to be national propert- will, if sent to the shambles, receive from the funds an allowance of 1s. a day, till killed by the enemy. Men having lost their health may apply to the Government for a pension. All refusing to recognise this decree will be proclaimed conscientious objectors and held strictly responsible.

In describing the "free love" rubbish of some back-block Anarchist Club (the truth about which we gave in our issue of 24th January last) as a Bolshevik proclamation, the "Star" is revealing both to what depths of "inexactitude" capitalist journalism can deliberately sink, and to what an abyss of credulity it evidently expects its readers to follow it.

According to the "New York American," both Reuter and the "Manchester Guardian" were wrong, and Mme. Catherine Breshko Breshovskava, the "grandmother of the Russian Revolution," is the latest accession to the dead-and-alive limbo already occupied by the Tsar, Gorky, Kropotkin, etc.; for on January 18 last she is stated to have arrived at Victoria, B.C., from the Orient, and to be going to Seattle, Washington and Boston. Such is the ridiculous position capitalist news control has created.

- A Manopolist's Hymn.

Let us corner up the sunbeams
Lying all around our path,
Get a trust on wheat and roses,
Give the poor the thorns and chaff.
Let us find the chiefest pleasure
Hoarding bounties of to-day.

So the poor shall have scant measure.
And two prices have to pay.

Yes, we'll reservoir the rivers.

And we'll levy on the lakes,
And we'll lay a trifling poll-tax

On each poor man who partakes:
We will brand his number on him,
That he'll carry through his life,
We'll apprentice all his children
Get a mortgage on his wife.

And we'll capture e'en the wind-god,
And confine him in a cave,
And then through our patent process

We the atmosphere will save; Then we'll squeeze our little brother When he tries his lungs to fill, Put a meter on his wind-pipe,

And present our little bill.
We will syndicate the starlight,
And monopolise the moon,
Claim a royalty on rest days,

A proprietary noon;
For right-of-way through ocean spray
We'll charge with joyous mirth;
We'll drive our stakes around the lakes.
In fact, we'll own the earth.

"The War for Small Nations is to end in a Peace of Great Powers. The War against World Domination by the Central Powers is to end in a very real World Domination by the Entente. The League of Nations is passing into a Holy Alliance:

"A bungler even in its disgusting trade,
And botching, patching, leaving still

Something of which its masters are

States to be curb'd and thoughts to be confined.

Conspiracy or Congress to be made— Cobbling at manacles for all mankind— A tinkering slave-maker who mends old

With God and man's abhorrence for its gains."—(Byron.)

'Meanwhile, Bolshevism, humiliated at Brest-Litovsk, is asserting itself twelve months later in Berlin, just as the Liberalism which Metternich crushed in Spain and Italy at last hurled him from Vienna. The Capitalist Press and the politicians hold up their hands in horror and talk of anarchy. They are the prime makers and fomenters of anarchy, because ther will not acquiesce in the Revolution, but give aid to the old order, which can only prolone its death-agony. In the name of order they are everywhere fomenting disorder and civil war, and are preventing Eastern and Middle Europe from settling itself.—"The Herald."

Hyndman, quoted in our issue last week, said the same. Thus do extremes

meet!

'Dont Preach Class War."

With industrial unrest in all parts of the world, giving expression to the autagonism that exists between a class in possession of the economic means of production and a class dispossessed and dependent on the former class for the use of those means of production for the necessaries of life, we have leaders of political labour parties, with all the evidence of world wide strikes before their eyes, saying "Don't preach the class war."

These Rip Van Winkles are either hypocritical mountebanks playing up to a middle-class element that creeps into all labour movements for the sake of the loaves and fishes of parliamentary honours, or on the other hand they have got mental kinks that distort their view of our social life.

The crisp statement in the Communist Manifesto—"The history of all hitherto existir—society is the history of class struggles"—is an illuminating one, giving us the key to the understandin— of all the great movements of the past.

The historians who have neglected using this key have given us volumes of drivel, they have told us of so-called great men, of kings and queens, a motley circus of mere puppets—mere froth thrown up by economic struggles of class against class. They have told us nothing of the great masses, of the inarticulate workers who in all phases of societies have delved and spun and without whose exertions our boasted civilisation to-day would not exist.

Real history is a record of the economic progress of the past. From the crude and scanty tools of pre-historic man to the scientific machine tools of to-day is a series of steps, a gradual evolutionary process ever changing the economic basis of society, leading to antagonism between the dispossessed and the possessor, a continual contest for political and social dominance, a brutal struggle for wealth by extortion on the one side, and a despairing or inflamed resistance on the other.

To accuse Socialists of preaching the class war is absurd. The struggle is ever present, and manifests itself in strikes and tock-outs. The existence of trado unions is an unconscious admission of the antagonism between employer and employed. The craft union form of organisation has however become obsolete. It has always denied the class struggle. It has been based on craft, drawing a line. of demarcation according to the tools with the fallacy of mutual interests between the owners of the jobs and the woykers dependent upon receiving jobs as a means. of subsistence. That fallacy is dying. hard, yet dying it is, and growing amongst the workers in all countries is the consciousness of the nature of the class struggle and the proper means for combating the opposing interests of the capitalist class.

Capitalism too has not slood still. In its development during the 19th century it has evolved newer and more efficient means of production. It has brought into existence the huge workshops and factories, with concentration of capital into fewer hands. To meet such a concentration of forces upon the capitalistic side, the workers on their side are beginning to recognise the class struggle in its nakedness, and are organising in the workshops, upon the

job. They are learning to view this problem of industrial unrest through working class spectacles, and in doing so have acquired the clearer vision of the brutality of the present system of greed and grab. They are clearing the social deck of compromise in preparation for that final struggle which will place the workers in control and, after a transition period, evolve the co-operative commonwealth, free of class, giving economic and social equality to each and all.

J.M.G.

League Notes.

MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS.

A meeting will be held in the Palmerston Hall. Commissioner Street, on Sunday, 16th, at 10 a.m. All members of the League are invited to attend for the purpose of making arrangements to adequately celebrate the International Labour Day.

JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

Open air meetings, all at 7.30 p.m. Saturday, March 15.—C.o. Marshall and Maddison Sts., Jeppes: W. J. C. Gibson, S. Ginsberg, I. Kessler.

Saturday, March 15.—Market Sq., Fordsburg: C. Dones, L. A. Shoul.

Sunday, March 16. — Town Hall (West End): E. H. Becker, W. Reid, T. P. Tinker.

Saturday, March 22.—Market Sq., Fordsburg: R. Rodger, T. P. Tinker. Wednesday. March 19—Co. Marc

Wednesday, March 19.—C.o. Marshall and Maddison Sts., Jeppes: 1).
Smith and others.

Sunday, March 23. — Town Hall (West End): H. Barendregt, S. P. Bunting, C. Dones.

In future the Jeppes meetings will be held every Wednesday evening instead of Saturday, commencing on March 19th, at same place.

Study Class as usual on Fridays, at the Palmerston Hall. W. J. C. Gibson will lecture on the 21st. inst., on "The collapse of the International."

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH.

A Social will be held on March 26th at Professor West's Hall, to which all comrades are heartily invited. Tickets, 1s. each, may be obtained at Head Office, or from the Secretary, I. Kessler, Palmerston Hall. Doors open at 7.30 p.m.

An open air meeting will be held on March 23rd at the corner of Commissioner and Ferreira Streets., Comrades I. Kessler, A. Goldman and I. Joffe will speak in Yiddish.

Study Class every Wednesday in Pal-

merston Hall, at 8 p.m.

At the Bris Melah of Comrade Sam Jaffe's first born son on the 11th inst., at 45, Beit St., Doornfontein, the sum of £5 was donated by those present on behalf of the boy towards the funds of the Jewish-Speaking Branch.

KRUCERSDORP BRANCH.

An open air meeting will be held on the Market Square on Saturday, 15th. Speaker, W. H. Andrews.

Sunday, 16th, in Thomson's Buildings, on "Industrial Unionism." Both meetings at 7.30 p.m.

Last Wednesday's Dance at West's Academy was very largely attended and resulted in a marked financial success.

Sinners to Repentance.

Mr. Sampson, "Labour" M.L.A., must have been paying lip service in Parliament to "solidarity irrespective" of colour," thereby raising an awkward hornets inest of questions at a Johannesburg "Labour Party" meeting, to which the chairman could only reply that he would prefer to consult with his executive before answering, and that possibly Mr. Sampson had been mis-reported; while Mr. Kentridge had no doubt the comparatively safe "equal pay for equal work" was all he meant. Mr. Waterston, however, made so bold as to say "we' shall have to face coloured competition in South Africa. Coloured men are at present being exploited, and, irrespective of race or colour. we have to work in the interests of the whole community" (capitalists included?): "the question must be studied

Mr. Waterston was one of the most active opponents of Com. W. H. Andrews when the latter contested Benoni in the 1917 Transvaal Provincial elections on the "native question." On the eve of the poll, a leastet in Dutch appeared over the signature of "R. Waterston, election agent, publisher,"

containing the following:--"Mr. Andrews has no proporties, businesses, or interests in Benoni and can do nothing for Benoni. The International Socialists stand for equal rights for white and black. They want their coloured brothers to compete in trades such as masons, painters, cabinet makers, mechanics, platelayers and pipelayers. The Capitalist gives the coloured man the preference because he is cheaper than the white man. The Internationalists if they are allowed will perpetuate this state of affairs. The Labour Parix is entirely against equal rights for white and black. Brother Afrikanders, vote for Andrews and you vote for the downfall of the workers and the blanket or Kaffir vote."

Now then, will Waterston be a man and publicly recant that leaflet?

Excommunicated.

An attempt has been made to exclude rebels from the S.A. Dutch Reformed Church Sacrament. Well, the Irish Catholic Primate warns his flock against Socialism, and on December 22nd. 1918, a Pastoral Letter, signed by the Roman Catholic Archbishops and the four R.C. Bishops of Holland, was read in all the Dutch Catholic churches. The Letter denounces Socialism as "taking into no account the eternal and unchangeable laws of God," and declares that "Socialism is in conflict with the Catholic Church. It is therefore forbidden to Catholics to be members of or to support Anarchist or Socialist associations, and the sacraments must be refused to any Catholic so long as he remains an adherent of Anarchism or Socialism."

Hall Society's exclusion of non-European workers from the Trades Hall at the end of 1917, it is piquant to find white, coloured and black bootmakers together holding their strike meetings there, and under the auspices of that White Labour Apostle, Mr. M. J. Green, too! ----

The Secret of Versailles.

Democracy having been won, the procedings of the Peace Conference are closed to democratic ears, and any suspicions of them we might have harboured on the general ground that no good could come of such a meeting of the world's criminal adventurers are redoubled by this veil of secrecy. The alied capitalists consider themselves the victors and bosses of the Conference, for the only power possessed by their real idversaries consists of the masses' will to' justice, truth and freedom; neartfelt and resolute, but disorganised as yet and unsupported (so at least they think) by brute force, that mediaeval method of settling inevitable economic questions which the revolution in Russia and Germany has made obsolete. Nevertheless the Versailles delegates ear these adversaries more than they German capitalist competition before the war; and hence all their efforts are directed to strangling the progress of the spreading world-social-revolution that threatens to overthrow the mouldy and blood-stained edifice of heir gapitalist regime.

Even in 1870 the capitalists of all countries feared the phantom of the Paris Commune. But now it is no onger a phantom, but a matter of actual, facts brought by the Soviet Government into life, and heralding the approaching day of liberation of the working masses from the heavy oppresjog of hundreds of years by the capital-

istic parasites.

One of the plums of the Conference the "League of Nations" stunt invanted to calm the disgusted peoples of the world. How remote this idea is from reality can be easily judged from the fact that its first initiator, President Wilson, believes so little in its vitality that he simultaneously insists on the nited States building up a tremendous navy. Wilson is fai-seeing enough to anderstand that against an outburst of empacious national greed no words of the League Delegates would avail for a sinrle moment.

A League of Nations is essential; we should all do our utmost to further it; but it must consist of the Central Committee of the Workers' International. Such a league will not require Dreadnoughts and guns to carry out its ideas.

The Imperialists constituting the l'eace Conference are trying to annihiate the common front of the Russo-German Revolution. To that end they are harping on the patriotic and national teelings of the peoples, and in particular they have hastily "re-establish-"d" Poland and very generously preented her with the German seaport of Dantzig. They have given the Poles their country, but they dared not let them organise as they liked, and have given them as President a pianist; Padrewski, a notorious reactionary and unti-Semite, and a mere tool in the hands of the Allied band of capitalists. His short presidency has already disringuished itself by a series of national pogroms, and the honour-loving governments who have "raised their noble words' in defence of poor little Belgium and Serbia observe with satisfaction that the Polish magnates can render reliable support to the imperialists by educating the uncultured Polish peaants in the principles of national strife.

thereby drawing them further and further away from internationalism.

Another highly: "cultured" method is to vanquish the workers' and peasants' revolution, which has sprung up into a luxuriant tree in Russia and spread powerful roots in Germany, by starvation. To this end the Allied Governments have inaugurated a complete blockade of Russia; they have subsidised the counter-revolutionary party, composed of the late Tsar's flunkeys, in order to strangle the country's industry and transport by a civil war and to deprive the Soviet Government of all opportunity of healing the dangerous wounds bequeathed by the Tsarist regime, thus provoking the disatisfaction of the smaller bourgeois classes of Russia.

The same measures are adopted towards Germany. The Allied Governments are openly threatening the people of Germany with starvation if it will not appoint a Government subservient to them. But the German workman, knowing well that he is not fighting alone, knowing that he has with him ultimately the proletariat of all Europe and America, is not afraid of these threats. Arguing even from the capitalist press news the day is not far distant when the Government of Ebert, and Schiedemann will give place to the real and genuine representatives of the popular feelings of Germany.

The bourgeoisie of the whole world are beginning to understand that no provocations or threats can avert the retaliation of the mass of the workers for the crimes of centuries and generations perpetrated on them by their rulers: but they still persist in devising fresh methods to deceive and enslave the working class. That is why this conference is conducted with closed doors, notwithstanding all their promises to

abolish Becret diplomacy.

Their efforts will bel vain. The Revolutionary standards are flying over Russia, Germany, Austria and Bulgaria. It cannot be long before the proletariat of the whole world will unite against its oppressors under the glorious Red Flag of Liberty. In its victorious advance the Socialist Revolution will be able to sweep away all obstacles and defeat, the plottings of its secular enemies. The hour has struck; the hand of the world's clock has moved, and there is no return to the past.

ILKA.

Tarnery Workers Wages.

The owner of the Silverton Tannery, Mr. Chas. Magos, has written to the "International" to the effect that the statement of the conditions of labour in his tannery and boot factory, appearing in our issue of February 21st, is palpably and wilfully untrue.

In reply a letter was written offering to publish any figures he might like to give, to which a reply was received on the 11th inst. to the effect that as the correct hours and rates were not asked for before publication it is unnecessary to publish them now.

We differ from Mr. Maggs and think it is necessary to publish them now.

Further investigation has disclosed the fact that although the hours worked were slightly overstated the wages were worse than the figures given indicated. We have a list of wages and

the names of the men and women who are receiving them which were supplied. to our Organiser Mr. W. H. Andrews by the workers themselves, and we have no reason to doubt their correctness. They are as follows. We leave the names out for obvious reasons.

Machinists (girls), £1 4s. to £1 10s.

per week.

Other workers are paid as follows:— One at £1, one at £111s., one at £1 5s., five at £1 6s., one at £1 10s., four at £2, one at £2 7s. 6d., one at £2 10s.; one at £2 17s. 6d., one at £3, two at £3 10s., one foreman, £4 per week.

We are glad to say that our efforts have resulted in a complete organisation of the leather workers at Silverton, and we have put them in touch with the South African Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, with which they will probably affiliate, and through their organisation a substantial improvement of their lot should be speedily obtained.

W. H. ANDREWS, Organiser.

Under Bolshevi: m.

EDUCATION AND ART.

At a meeting of the All-Russian C.E.C. last October it was decided there. was to be one class of schools only, to be divided into two grades, the first for children from 8 to 13 years, the second for the children from 13 to 17 years. The schools are to be co-educational and secular. The number of scholars to one teacher may not exceed 25. The old method of discipline which prevented the free development of the child may not be employed. The education will be semi-technical. All examinations are abolished.

"The authorities and the workerpeasant organisations" (says the organ of the Petrograd Soviet) "have constructed for the workers, over the whole country, such a wide approach to know. ledge, to the schools, to science and to art, as has never been known in the whole world. It will be much easier for the workers and peasants in the second year of the revolution. . . We have taken into our service the intelligentsia; we have ourselves received the means for education and thus ourselves become intelligentsia; we shall quickly and easily come to a full enlightened and joyous life, when no one will op-

press auvone.

According to a correspondent of the "Times," the majority of the valuable pictures at the Hermitage (the famous Petrograd gallery) have been taken to Moscow levidently to escape the vandalist attacks of the Allies.—Ed.], and the Bolshevist Minister of Fine Arts, M. Lunacharsky, deserves credit for generally doing his utmost to preserve works of art and protect art workers. The singer Tchaliapin, who sang at Drury Lane in 1914, winning a triumphal reception, was singing in January last at the Petrograd opera at a large salary, but to a type of audience he had probably never known in his previous career. [Disgusting, isn't it, to admit sans-culottes to the opera?—Ed.1

The "Manchester Guardian" eays: "The Soviet authorities are everywhere trying to encourage the peasants and agriculturists to organise communes for tilling the soil and growing vegetables. A model commune has been organised by the peasants in the province of Tver, under the leadership of a few agriculturists, and is progressing

very satisfactorily."

"The Workers."

Pollowing on the "Star's" naive sigh at the paucity of Labour members returned to the English Parliament, we have just had some very artless advances from the tin-pot brand of bourgeois forming our Union Parliament, and from their Johannesburg backers. To-day it is all Love for Labour (one section or another), so you would think after reading last Friday's "industrial situation" debate in Parliament. or tho press articles on the plight of the coloured builders, or Sir David Harris' plea for absolute equality between educated whites and coloureds (as in Kimberley where they vote for him) and exhortation to the coloured people to organise themselves. The politicians at the Cape essay the pretty pretty touch, and quite an International Socialist leastet could be compounded from the pronouncements of the rival artists Merriman and Malan, thus:

"Mr. Creswell has spoken of the workers." What does he mean by the workers? Who are the workers in this country? Who has built our railways and who has dug our mines but the black man? Do we ever hear members on the Labour benches say anything about our duties to the black man? The Labour members are extremely uncomfortable with regard to the colour bar, and they try to wriggle out of the situation. It is the black man who does the hard work in this country: I maintain that the workers who want to get on are prevented." (J.X.M.)

"Mr. Moffat enquired into native troubles and referred especially to the question of the colour bar. What is really behind this colour bar is public opinion—the opinion of the workers. It is the real thing. The poor coloured people and the poor white people who do not belong to a trade union do not get any strike pay. We cannot compel a trade union to admit non-Europeans: consequently the coloured people will form their own trade unions, and when the Government urges workers to form trade unions it is worth while seeing that these unions are thoroughly representative, and they should not have three or four unions dealing with the same trade" or industry. "Dr. Abdurahman asks if the Government is prepared to protect the coloured workers against the white strikers who interfere with them. I think the attitude taken up by Dr. Abdurahman is a reasonable one. The men who try to exploit the native and coloured people are no friends of the country. With the experience of 1913-14 behind us, and after what has happened since, the House to-day is prepared to take a much more sympathetic attitude towards trade unionism and organised labour." (F.S.M.)

Passing over the crazy inconsequentiality of the latter speech, we might almost ask if a Daniel has come to judgment, or what? But the explanation is simple enough. They have had the tip from Europe that the game is nowadays to smoodge the workers, and so they are trying as usual to ape Lloyd George. Unfortunately they are too heavy-footed for the game—one which requires greater skill every day—and by their clumsiness they completely

give the show away. The present capitalist tenderness for the coloured victims of white strikers' reactionary pride and prejudice, for instance, is utterly discredited by the acquiescence of this same class in the Bloemfontein Terror which has been suppressing all native meetings under the cloak of the Riotous Assemblies Act, and by their shrieks against Socialist propaganda or organisation among natives, coloureds, or Indians; while on the other hand their benevolence to white workers is discounted by their outery at the very significant "Don't Shoot" article in "Ons Vaderland"—which, it is true, does not mean "Don't shoot verdomde Kaffirs' or even "Engelse," but does nevertheless suggest, however remotely, an ultimate fusion of Dutch Nationalism under the heat of the class strug-

No sane man really believes in these hollow professions of interest in "the workers" (or in "the real workers," as the case may be) from men who confessedly aim at making democracy safe for "the world." When these Pharisees are "sympathetic towards organised labour," they almost avowedly mean sympathetic to those "labour lieutenants" who undertake to keep the rank and file quiet, tame and submissive;

dition it has more especially become to remain at the salute; sympathetic to those horny handed sons of toil who meet the masters at Carlton banquets, to those "Labour Parties." of the petty middle-class who make such admirable tools of capitalism, or to that type of National Congresses that are opened by Mayors and Government officials, as the latest Native Congress was.

The only workers, white or black, to win the "sympathy" of these canting "statesmen" (who with a slangy contempt of court still protest that Luke Messina's affidavit was "all right") are the crawlers who work in the interest of the bosses, who scab on their fellow-workers, who are always hanging on the coat-tails of the Chamber of Mines to settle labour disputes, even disputes between one Labour Union and another, and who organise Trade Union Defence Forces to shoot native working men.

"Don't listen to agitators or Socialists," say our Junkers, "for they stir up class war against—US": that is to say, they organise all labour for the only object for which labour ever can be usefully organised.

Indeed, the cat is positively chucked out of the bag at us when Mr. Malan says without a wince that "it is Incumbent upon the responsible leaders in the Labour World to assist the Government in rooting out the agitators who are creating so much mischief"; and by the way, how loyally some of the leaders in question have tried to do what is incumbent on them!

A play is acted of disagreement between Merriman and Malan. The only difference is that Merriman (though he loves the black labourer no more than Malan does, only for his cheapness and servility) is half ashamed to parley with such traitorous types, whereas Malan thinks it very clever diplomacy to do so—and remember that Malan is Acting Premier while Merriman is only a free lance. But like their counterparts all over the world, both are essentially enemies of all labourers, white and black: they are absolutely at one in

their class hatred and their determination to preserve as long as they can the present supremacy of the capitalist clique. They to nothing for labour out of "sympathy" or "duty to the black man," but, like other Huns professing goodwill, yield only to fear.

Note that capitalist governments, especially in English-speaking countries, like to pose loftily as non-interventionists, as gods serene above capital and labour disputes—and then to intervene after all; and when they do thus come off the fence, in other words call out the troops, they invariably do it, like the British Government in Russia, on the side of the exploiters, or of "pro" perty" as they say, and never once, in all the history of labour, on the side of the workers: so much for their. "impartiality." They will flatter white workers as long as these will resolutely boycott common action wth black ones: and at the same time they will slobber over coloured workers just in so far as they are sticks to beat white ones with. But in 1913-14 they shot down the whites; at Bloemfontein the other day they raised rifles, and at Johannesburg last year they fixed bayonets, at the voteless, helpless blacks. Everywhere they try only to corrupt, divide and intimidate, and failing that, or with that object, they arrest the spokesmen who "organise labour" or help "the coloured people to form their own unions." And when those workers who "do all the hard work" "want to met on," it is these hypocrites that "prevent them," except to the extent of assisting them to break the colour bar. They are the enemies of every real Forward Movement, white or black. And they call themselves "We" and "The Country"! Surely it is they, not ve, who are, to use Malan's language. "the comparatively small clique who are working underground, not in the interests of the workers, stirring up the class war, and exploiting the native and coloured people'!

But courage! "We," "the country," the "public," in the true sense, are not going to lie down much longer under the heel of rogues. Realising that only a Socialist system can really remove the sting of grade or race dissimilarities in our working class, the two great sections of South African Labour are at last turning, if slowly, yet irrevocably, towards co-operation. Once they make common cause they will together with one stroke sweep these dishonest smoodgers into oblivion.

The I.S.L. expresses its sincere sympathy on the death of Prof. West who, when all other halls were barred, never refused his hall to the Socialists.

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

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Printed by the U. P. & P. Co., Ltd., for the I.S.L., Box 4179, Johannesburg.