Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

THE INTERNATIONAL

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

P.O. BOX 4179.

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

Phone 6035.

No. 181



FRIDAY, APRIL. 25, 1919.

PRICE 3d. WEEKLY.

MAY DAY NUMBER. SPECIAL

Greetings.

To our "Comrades of the Great War" in other lands we stretch forth 3 the hand of friendship. First to the 180 million workers and peasants of Russia whose banner, riddled with shot from every malignant Junker nest, yet loats more proudly to-day than ever, a rallying point for militant Socialists throughout the world. Then to the proletarians of Hungary and Bavaria who having deposed the lords who bade them fight ruling class battles, are now defending their precarious new-won treedam: and to the remaining workers of Germany and Austria, struggling still to shake off their capitalist "Social Patriot' incubus; with a tribute to their two last accessions to the whole noble army of martyrs. To the still submerged and gagged peoples of France, Italy and other lands; yes, to the masses of Britain and America, many of them too drowsy yet from the sumes of jingoism, too steeped in middle-class commonplace, to strike the blow it should have been their pride to get/in first." vet in their way too advancing solidly towards the goal. Last, to the countless millions of non-European (race, striking half blindly against foreign domination, but destined betore long to discern the real enemy behind it, exploiting their labour for profit. To these and all their like we send greetings this May Day, 1919, bidding them be of good cheer, for the night is already far spent, the Day is at hand.

A Regretiett incéent

The "Star" in its whine about the abandonment by the British capitalist Government and their Allies of the Crimean Peninsula, refers to Trotsky as a possible Napoleon and accuses him of inducing or compelling experienced officers to take commands. The following extract from "La Bataille" (France) provides interesting comment

on such charges:--

The League of the Rights of Man has just brought to the notice of the President of the Council (Clemenceau) the tragic situation of Russian officers in Salonika. They were sent to the Eastern Army to fight avainst Bulgaria, but since the armistice they are being forced to join Denikin's anti-Bolshevik army. They have sent a protest to General Franchet d'Esperay, but have been forcibly dispatched: 48 out of 300 being sent to Russia on Jan. 8th, other groups following. Those who positively refused to go have been arrested and imprisoned. Ukrainian officers, who do not recognise any other country as their own but the Ukraine, Lave also bene forced into Denikin's army.

A May Day Message.

"International Labour Day"—each year its import expands. From a commemorative anxiversary it has become in 1919 as festival of approaching triumph: it celebrates the certain emancipation of the world from class rule. To-day the Working class International is no more an affair of politicians and trade unionists foregathering in European towns. It is at work on the liberation of all the exploited masses and oppressed races—for oppression is but a weapon of exploitation—of every continent, every colour and race. Socialism is no longer a dream, it is at present a raging battle against barbarism. We confront to-day a desperate and utterly unscrupulous world bourgeoisie at bay. Their wars among themselves having passed off the stage. the class war alone is left, the war in which he that is not with us is against us, the war in which there is "nothing to arbitrate about," and the choice is death or victory.

During the transition therefore May Day means not flowers and village dances, but a grim structele of toile millions against the united war's strength of the capitalist world trust: against all its blood-lust, all its press lies, all its typical panoply of force and fraud. It/means conspiracies, frame-ups, acents provocateur and Black Hundreds. It means imprisonments, deportations, lynchings or asalsination of agmators." It means mob law when the hooligans are servile to the Prust, bombs on the mob when "rioters" claim their freedom. means massacres, pogroms, White Terror, military dictaiorships, Aanks on the Market Squares, unprecedented excesses of ruling class violence, lawlessness and repression, hunger blockades of Socialist communities, the vilest appeals to racial prides and hatreds; especially against non-European races, the unashamed defilement by the property interests of every decent social. principle, in this their last attempt to stem the tide of Social Revolution.

But "The Day" will not be long in coming now. "Revolution is the best education," and revolution is already the vogue. Notwithstanding the intensity of the fight, therefore, rather because of it, this May Day is a day of greater rejoicing than ever before, since history and current events alike promise to the working-class movement a dearly-won but irresistible victory in our time. Then shall the flowers blossom indeed and the villages dance for joy, when all men shall labour for the common good, and profit, poverty and oppression be unknown for evermore.

"Vox Populi."

Suggested Manifesto for the Native Masses of South Africa.

How times have changed since the days of our grandfathers! Uncivilised tribesmen they were, sunk in superstition and continually fighting either among themselves or against the white man who advanced into their land and usurped control over them; yet on the whole they fared tolerably well and did pretty much what they, or at any rate their chiefs, liked.

From Noble Savage to Proletarian.

To-day we have for the most part become pary of the white man's world -his farming, his mining, his railways, his industries. White men have assumed ownership and possession of the best land, and have made many of us their seris or servants on it, while others of us are forced to their towns or mines to toil under wretched and unnatüral conditions far from our wives and children and homes. Today we constitute the great majority of the working class of the country. And as workers our fate is to do most of the work and produce most of the good things but in return, at the best, to get barely enough to pay the taxes they put on us and out of what is left keep our hodies alive and fit to work and breed children to do likewise; at the worst, to perish of starvation and disease. In a couple of generations we, together with some of the white workers, have become the "submerged nine-ienths of South Africa.

The Bilter Cry of Outeast Labour.

Is it not strange that of all this new wealth which we have produced so little has come our way and so much. has fallen into the lap of men who did nothing to produce it? Is it not unfair that our work, the most disagreeable of all, is the worst paid? Is it not altogether a topsy-turvy arrangement that although the farming, the mining, the railways and the industries of the country could not be carried on for twenty-four hours without us, yet it is not the masters who beg terms of us, but we who are seemingly dependent on them to get a job? And is it not adding insult to injury that on top of all this we have no civil rights worth mentioning, no education to speak of, that we are treated like cattle, or rather far worse, oppressed as a subject race, and sometimes even hunted down like mad dogs? Surely there is something wrong about it all! Surely "civilisation," or even the "semicivilisation' said to have been conferred on large numbers of us, means something more equitable, more tolerable, than this!

Hope of Deliverance.

Well might we sigh for those good old-times of our grandfathers, were it not that the past never returns. Well might we wish we could drive away the white men and get back "Africa for the Africans," were it not that the Government is too well armed against us for that, and besides, under a better scheme of things, the whites could be as useful to us as we now are to them. Then is there no outlook for us? We believe there must be: indeed we begin to realise that, although not in the way we have sometimes imagined, our deliverance is perhaps nearer, at hand than many of us have dared to hope—a deliverance which will bring us, not back to our uncivilised state. nor even to what is to-day called civilisation, but to something far better than we over dreamt of before.

The Noble Army of Workers.

For we are coming to see that in losing the "freedom of the land" and becoming wave-earners we have only entered on the same condition of life as the great majority of every people on the earth have already done, white. yellow, brown and black, but more particularly the "civilised" peoples. And we can see as well as anyone else that the workers of these countries are insisting, as is only natural, that this condition of life wherein the many toil and live poorly while the few idle and live richly shall be changed, and that instead of the workers being dependent on the masters, the masters are really dependent on them and therefore have no right to dictate to them but rather the other way round.

Where Labour Rules.

In some countries indeed we have heard how the workers have already, by organising together, gained power, and have declared the land, the mines, the railways and the factories to belong to all who work, and no longer to the former owners, who merely rode on their backs. We read how they have formed themselves into Councils all over their respective countries, and # how these Councils have arranged for 7 the land to be cultivated—how in fact in many parts it is already cultivated with a will—by each and all for the benefit of each and all, so that good food, clothing, hou ing and education may be open to all who are willing and able to work, without masters over them to keep them in subjection and poverty. The workerst can produce plenty: well, let them have plenty; that, it seems, is their unansweiable motto.

The Big Vicin

It is to this great movement of the united workers of all lands that we are beginning to look for our salvation too. Some will sav that the white workers, though far better off than we, are apparently themselves still so slavish and ignorant as to take the part of their and our bosses against us, well paid to play policeman over us just as on a mine the boss boys are better paid to kick the lasher boys and make them do more work. But we are learning to look further afield than merely at the White Trade Unionsoof South Africa. We can fix our eves on the workers' movement, and the movement of subject and exploited races, over the whole world, and we can see that their

fight for freedom is destined to include us and lift us out of our slavery and ignorance and thus to overcome the neglect and contempt with which we are still regarded by white workers locally.

The Real Conflict.

We too must begin to play our part in this "labour movement" by organising ourselves into unions in the different industries where we work in the towns, and by promoting regular and frequent meetings of ourselves in the country which will develop into native councils to consider and urge our claims and interests as workers or peasants in the various districts. In course of time we may expect these unions and councils, federated in a true "National Congress," to make their voices heard; and then we shall find that the white workers' unions and Councils will come to recognise us as convades in the world struggle for working class freedom. Then we as well as they shall realise that the real and effective struggle is after all net bitween whitz and blacks, but between the toiling masses of all rases and the privileged "capitalists" or "property owners" of all races who exploit them,

The Mew Dispensation.

We too can dieam dreams and see visions. Uur dieam and our vision is this, that when the workers of South Africa, white and black; recognise each other as fellow workers, in that Eday-they will be able, all races standing side by side, to govern the country. And flaving secured control of the country they will at once change Athe order of things. The land will no longer be owned by a few landowners, but will be managed and administered by the organised and combined workers and peasants for the combined beneffit of all. As in the other countries Anentioned above, so here all alike, whether white or black, who are willing to work, will enjoy the food and other necessaries and luxuries produced, the education and the freedom, in equal measure. Taxes, pass laws, labour regulations, Native Land Acts and Native Affairs Administration Acts, and all the other things which now drive us to become wage-slaves and live stagnant and degraded lives in compounds and back-vards, will be done away with. Everything will be done to organise the agriculture and stock-raising of the country so as to make it in the highest degree produclive as well as altractive and prosporous for those who prefer to work in the country; while those who prefer town work will likewise perform their share in the industries there and onfor their share of the necessaries and amenities of life like those in the country—irrespective of colour. There will be room for all, white and black; and there will be no race jealousy or hatred because all, white and black, will have plenty.

The Road to Success.

To bring all this to pass means no doubt a long and extremely difficult, in fact dangerous task for us. For apart from the tribal feuds among ourselves (and let us resolve to sink these henceforth for ever in the common cause), we know how the ruling class always see to it that anyone, white or black, who really tries to help us to advance or organise, or who takes any

part in our movement, is set upon by the police, the courts, the press, the landowners and the townsmen, with their hangers-on, and is put into gao or worse for "sedition," "incitin~ us to violence," or what not. But let us persevere. Recognising that many sacrifices and failures by the way are inevitable, let us never relax our efforts. Let us keep off liquor like poison, for it is the master's chain on the workers' brain. Let us not get excited, but preserve good manners. Let us rely, not on violence as our masters do, but on patient organisation, which can beat truncheons, guns, bayonets and even aeroplanes. Let us not attempt to ape, the white man's swank: but let us insist on the white workmen's unions co-operating with ours until at last our prestige constrains them to comply. For we too can quite grasp the idea that the salvation of all the peoples of the earth from wage slavery, exploitation and oppression wholly depends on this world-wide emancipation movement of the united working class.

The "fistoric Mission" of the Exploited.

Let us unite then as workers and peasants' to secure influence and, as we develop, power in the land: not for our educated leaders merely (whom we must watch closely lest they betray us) but for us all. We do not want to raise a few above the rest: we must. all rise to the better life. Nor can President Wilson or the "Peace Conference" do anything for us: it is ourselves that must help ourselves. And ret not as natives but as an exploited class must we combine. It is obviously not just because our skins are black, but in order to keep our labour cheap, that we and other subicct races are held down. It is in order that they may take for themselves the best part of the fruits of our toil that the master class subdue and degrade us. All these cruel laws are made simply to facilitate the exploitation of our labour by those who "own" all the land and means of production and thus dictate terms to us. Exploitation is the servet of charassion; and we are convinced that only the exploited can end exploitetien.

So at last, side by side with our fellow workers not only in South Africa, in the one or America, but in India, China and all other lands, we shall shake off economic and political bond; account enter with them into the Promised Land of Labour and Freedom, the Workers' Co-operative Commonwealth of the World.

Long have we laboured in darkness and

Robbed of the bread of our toil and our sweat;

Dare we to strive for a brighter to-morrow?
What though our path be with perils beset!

So march on, O comrades, march till the day break;

Red glows the Flag of Revolt in the dawn!
So march on, O comrades, march till the day break;

Red glows the Flag of Revolt in the

See in the East how the cloud-wrack is breaking!
Comrades, arise! for the morn is at

Souls that have slept in oppression waking,
Daylight is dawning in every land!

Why Paderewski went to Paris.

The following extracts from an article written in Warsaw on March 1st by a special correspondent of the "Herald" (Bondon) may explain why the cables stated without comment the other day that Paderewski, the "Saviour" of Poland, was in Paris. He probably feels safer and more comfortable there than in his native land just nów, where he appears to have antagonised all classes.

The traveller who enters Poland after a stay in German Austria moves into an atmosphere of relative plenty

and unbounded hopes. Vienna is on the edge of starvation. Warsaw is better supplied, though prices reveal an orgy of profiteering. Austria is perishing of cold for lack of fuel: Poland has her thousands of superfluous tons of coal, which she would export if waggons could be found for her. Vienna, amid the magnificence of the past, contemplates her future as a German provincial town. Warsaw blots out from its memory the bad dream of its servitude, and gives way to limitless prospects of expansion and renaissance. It is a symbol of Its mood that gangs of the unemployed are demolishing the Russian fortress, in order to build wharves with its bricks.

The Wave of Pestilence.

The epidemic of typhus steadily advancing from the Russian frontier across Poland. Already in Warsaw, which alone in all Poland has an adequate sanitary service, there are over three hundred case in hospital. Soap there is none, and the poor, none too clean in these regions at the best of times, are doomed to endure the hopeless dirt of their homes, their clothes and their persons. Back and forward these hundreds of thousands of prisoners and bondslaves are swept by the tides of war, items in the general misery of Eastern Europe. Across the Russian lines a quarter of a million or more

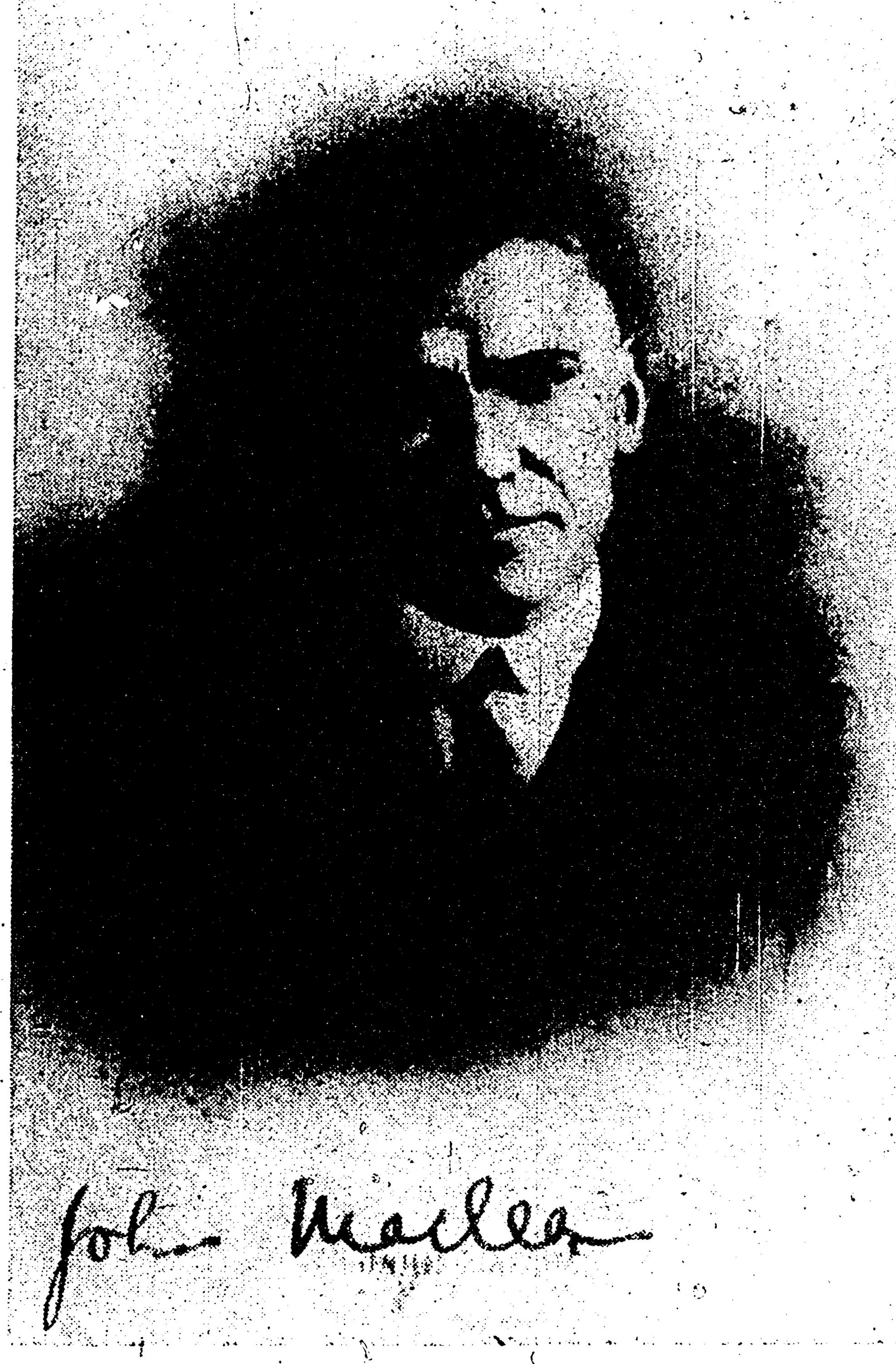
of Polish and Jewish peasants driven in 1915 from the villages which the Russians systematically burned, are now waiting in Bolshevik camps to return to homes which no longer exist. From Germany the stream of Russian prisoners of war is being diverted by the sedulous care of the French military authorities to camps in Rumania. where counter-revolutionary officers will embody them, willing or unwilling, in the armies that are to meet the Red Guards in spring. The end is not yet in this surge of misery and blood-

To what land do the returning bondsmen return when the fires have purged them of their pests? To a land which can offer the workmen no work, a land which is waging war in its fashion on four fronts at once. Ger-

mans and Tchechs, Ukrainians and Bolsheviks are all of them in arms along its borders. Warsaw streets are thronged with officers awaiting the new conscript levies,

A Mockey of Peace.

While we in the West have seen the end of our war, the Polish papers are 'filled with news of shloody Baities against the Germans on the Posen front waged without quarter, of a general advance by the Tchechs against all the Enter's decrees in the disputed borderland of Teschen, of a doubtful armistice at Lemberg, of the dreaded Bolshevik offensive from the East. For



JOHN MACLEAN.

hours on end the Military Commission of the Constituent Assembly pauses in the work of construction to discuss the pros and cons of a war with the Soviet Government. Sober men shake their heads and ask by what means can a country without transport, without factories, with raw, untrained conscript lads make war on the formidable armies of the Russian Soviets. The Censor suppresses Tchicherin's recent offer of negotiations with the Polish Government. The Socialists struggle to bring it to light. The average middle-class man, half-dreading this war, half-coveting its fruits of conquest, shrugs his shoulders and answers every argument with the sentence, "The Entente expects it of us, we must do its bidding. It is the price we have to pay for our-Independence."

The inevitable Unemployed.

Up the street march the Waacs, and the conscripts, and those incredible Polish blue-jackets. Down the street, with cavalry to "move them on," comes a band of the unemployed, fresh from demonstrating under M. Paderewski's windows. There are over 70,000 of them in Warsaw. Count their wives and children in the sum, and they make more than a fourth of Warsaw's population. There are in "Russian" Poland alone, in the urban population plone, over 200,000 unemployed. To them are being rapidly added the 700,000 returning workers (men and women) from Germany. Poland with its dense population, and its backward

agriculture, was over-populated. It contrived to live by sending annually its 300,000 seasoned workers to Germany. That overflow is blocked. Closed, too, is the road of escape to America, which for four years will refuse all immigrants from Europe. The factories lived by exporting their cotton goods to Russia. Who knows what markets in the chaos of rival peoples will be open in the future?

The Coming of the Soviets.

The administrative world, looking abroad for food, for raw materials, for a loan. waits for that distant Providence, the Entente, to solve its problem. Below its comfortable deliberations, the masses scheme to face their own needs in their own way. A net-work of Soviets (the Poles use the word "Rada") formed on the Russian model aiready covers all the industrial and a few of the rural districts. They are by no means Bolshevik as yet, but the Left has the energy, the ideas, and the logic of events on its side. The Bolshevik (or as it is called, "Communist) element numbers twelve members on the Organising Council. Only this Communist minority is prepared as yet for full theoretical programme. "All Power to the Soviets."

Agrarian strikers, organised both by the Socialists and by the peasant "Populists," are spreading methodically

from district to district, and they end in the partial acceptance by the landlords of a large programme of demands, which cover the right of association, as well as wages.

Paderewski Provocation.

The Moderates move on, under the provocative policy of the Paderewski Government. It struck at first only at the Communists. It has arrested 150 leaders. The rest rarely sleep under their own roofs. It suppressed first the daily and then the weekly organ of the party. It has begun to attempt searches in the most advanced districts, and has even-arrested a few orthodox 80cialists. The result is that the orthodox, at first opposed to a "demonstration' general strike, is now committed. to it, as a means of protest.

The Scandal of Murman.

The two letters printed below are from a soldier in the British North Rus. sian Expeditionary Force, and they speak for themselves.

How to Make At Men.

I.

Here I am very near Russia, after a terrible voyage. I should like to put you in possession of a few facts concerning this Russian business, which I can vouch for on my oath that they are correct.

previous warning we were told to parade before the medical officer, which turned out to be a farce. You simply walked in front of him and you were fit; the Lord knows what

we have had a terrible voyage, and if you could only just now see the conditions of those Army invalids, huddle together and sick, it would, I know, make you—as it has made me—curse the men who sent us. We were absolutely torn away from our wives and children, and just when that —— I loyd George was preparing to have a good Christmas. I wonder if any of the curses of these men fell on his head? God knows he had enough.

Before the mail leaves here, carrying my previous letter to you written on board ship, I find I shall have time to let you have a few lines concerning the conditions prevailing for the British soldiers in Russia.

We arrived here (Murmansk) on January 1, 1919, and nobody seemed to know anything about us, which was, in some respects, a good thing, seeing that it enabled us to have another meal on board such as it was; but we were to find out pretty quickly that the food on board was fit for a king compared with what we got on shore.

Soldiers Begging Bread.

However, on coming alongside the landing stage, we met a party of British soldiers, and in all my life I never ran across such miserable objects. The first thing they shouted at us was, "Have you any bread?" That didn't make us feel very comfortable, I can assure you. However, I went below and begged a bowl of hot rice, and handed it up to them. The sight I shall never forget. The man in possession soon found, himself surrounded by the hungry boys, who, without standing upon ceremony, simply snatched it away from him in handfuls and ate it just like wild beasts.

The tale they had to tell us was even worse. It is no exaccreration to say that the conditions here for the British soldiers are a disgrace to the British Government, and if there is anybody in England who will take the matter up. I am sure he will earn the undying gratitude of us all in Russia.

Starvation Rations.

The boys have heard that the people .

et home are being told that the Force

here is the best fed, clothed and equipped army in any theatre of war. Really, it is nothing more or less than a half-starved army. I could have eaten the whole day's issue at breakfast time and then have looked round for my breakfast; and this in a country where the temperature is much below zero.

Accommodation there is none, so we have been put on an old Russian battle-ship, which, I believe, was sunk in the Russian-Japanese War, and raised again by the Japanese. It has since been used as a convict ship.

An Appeal to You.

It is no exaggeration to saw that the opinion amongst the boys here I have come in contact with is that they are sent here to be got rid of, seeing they are B2 and B3 category men, and, in the



LENIN (VLADIMIR ULYANOFF), Born 1870 in Simbirsk. Translated Karl Marx into Russian.

majority of cases, entitled to a pension for previous service.

I have given you correct facts. If anything, the situation is much worse than I have given you in this letter. If you can do anything for us out here, I know that every one of us will thank you from the bottom of our hearts. ("Herald," London, March 1, 1919.

Donations to the Silverton Tannery
Lock-Out Fund.

Already acknowledged£19 9 9
Pretoria Branch collection ... 0 18 0
Johannesburg collection at
public meting on Sunday . 3 18 7
Collected by Brakpan com-

We are very grateful to the comrades who have sent to the office the issue of the "International" of September 27, 1918. A few more are needed to make up the number. Will other readers please look up their files!—Ed.

Rex V. somes and Greene.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS AT MARITZBURG.

We are indebted mainly to the "Times of Natal" for the following report:—

The accused D. Ivon Jones (formerly Secretary of the I.S.L. and editor of this paper) and L. H. Greene (a well-known Maritzburg Socialist and member of the local I.S.L. branch were charged with contravening sub-section 2 of section 2 of the Moratorium Act by communicating to other persons a pamphlet calculated to create alarm er excite public feeling, with inciting to public violence by publishing the pamphlet (this charge is made under section 7 of the Riotous Assemblies Act)

and with contravening the above section of the Moratorium Act by failing to transmit a copy of the pamphlet to the Chief Censor, Cape Town.

Mr. Fannin prosecuted and Mr. Harold Stuart of Durban appeared for both accused, who pleaded not guilty. The reading of the summons occupied a considerable time, for it included

the full text of the pamphlet, viz.:—

THE BOLSHEVIKS ARE COMING.

To the Workers of South Africa —Black as well as White.

A spectre is haunting Europe—the spectre of Bolshevism!
What is this Bolshevism that the ruling class is so much afraid of?

Why do they send British Armies to Russia to fight the Bolsheviks?

Have they not had enough killing? Or is it a thirst for righteousness that makes them pack Tommy Atkins off to freeze in the snows of Archangel, just when he was looking forward to Home and Blighty?

The Czar massacred half a million nomads in Southern Russia in one swoop. They did not send an army against him.

of Bolshevism? Why do they
in turn pale at its shadow as at the
ghosts of murdered men? Why?
We will tell you why!

The Great War of Nations is over, and the Class War against Labour has openly begun.

Bolshevism means the rule of the working class! And where the workers rule, the Capitalists cannot carry on their Robber System any more.

A Campaign of Lies.

Workers! Do not be misled when the Capitalist Press reviles the Bolsheviks. They slander the Bolsheviks because they have lost the fat money bags they lent to the Czar to crush the Russian people.

They slander the Bolsheviks because they have lost the rich mines and factories which the Russian workmen are now working for themselves; and the land, which forty million peasants are farming in common under the Soviet Republic.

They slander the Bolsheviks because they fear you will follow suit. They are afraid the workers in South Africa will also become free and independent.

They are losing their hair over Bolshevism because they see a prospect of losing their Profits.

Bolshevism Means Labour on Top.

The workers of Russia and Germany are forming themselves into Soviets—that is: Councils of Workmen.

They are taking over the control of the country into their own hands—the hands of the great wage-earning proletariat. That means the end of the Profiteering System, the end of the Capitalist exploitation of wage-labour for profit.

Why have the workers of Russia and Germany to shed their blood?

Germany to shed their blood? Because the Capitalist Class of

all countries will sooner tear the people to pieces with their cannon rather than let the people rule. The workers are the people.

Remember the massacre of the workers in Johannesburg in 1913, and in Bloemfontein last February!

Down with British Militarism!
It is a weapon to crush the workers.

Down with Allied intervenon in Russia!!

Down with the Capitalist Class in all countries!!!

The hope of the workers is coming from Bolshevism. The free commonwealth of labour is an actual fact in Russia to-

Bolshevism means the victory of the wage-earners. It will soon spread to Britain, France, America and throughout the the world.

Cet Ready for the World-wide

Republic of Labour.

The way to get ready is to combine in the workshops. Combine as workers, no matter what colour.

Remember that an injury to one is an injury to all, be he black or white.

While the black worker is oppressed, the white worker cannot be free.

Before Labour can emancipate itself black workers as well as white must combine in one organisation of Labour, irrespective of craft, colour or creed.

This is Bolshevism: The Solidarity of Labour.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

You have nothing to lose but your Chains. You have a world to win!!
If you want to know the truth about Bolshevism

Read "THE INTERNATIONAL"
Organ of The International Socialist
League (S.A.)
P.O. Box 4179,

Johannesburg.

Mr. Fannin said he proposed to prove by letters found on Jones or opened by the Censor in Cape Town that both accused were connected with the I.S.L. (S.A.), that the pamphlet was distributed to all classes of the population, and that the distribution led on one occasion to a scuffle in Church Street between some returned

soldiers and some agents of the accusd, and had give rise to disturbances when circulated in Durban, although Mr. Stuart objected that the accused were not charged with that.

Among the witnesses called was Mr. J. Sturge, Press Censor, Cape Town, who said he had not seen the pamphlet produced until he came into the box, and that it was not imperative that copies should be sent to the Censor prior to publication, so a pamphlet might be censored after publication, but not before. Shown a leastet in Zulu and Sesuto, he said he had not seen it before. Had he seen one urging the natives to unite in the workshops, he did not think he would have stopped it. He believed the native had the same right as a white man to organise. He would not have thought it necessary to submit the Zulu leaflet to the Law



white must combine in one or- TROTZKY, Born 1381 at Ekaterinoslav (Leon Bronstein)

Department. He did not know of any other case in which an individual had been charged with failing to comply with the regulations by sending a copy to the Censor.

Capt. Slater, M.C., Chief Constable, said the pamphlet gave him the im-Pression that some declared Bolsheviks were coming to Maritzburg, in which case it would probably have become his unpleasant duty to protect them from the populace. The worst paragraph. he continued, was that which alluded to the union of all workers without regard to race or colour. The references to "black and white," he considered likely to lead to unrest in Maritzburg, where the colour line was very clearly defined. As an ex-soldier he also objected to Down with British Militarism: it is a weapon to crush the workers." A revolution which would include the native population could not be peaceful. It would be accompanied by Bolshevism, otherwise riot, murder

and sudden death. Alluding to the effect of the pamphlet he said: "Oh, there wouldn't be a riot in Maritzburg. They don't take these people as seriously as all that. The majority of the white people know Greene, and they just put it down as one of Greene's"—"Foibles?" suggested Mr. Stuart. "Foibles will do," assented Capt Slater. The pamphlet did not cause any excitement, because it went off like a damp squib. It did nothing more than annoy people.

Mr. Fannin said the pamphlet did not excite public feeling in Maritzburg but he proposed to lead evidence to show that it did excite feeling in Durban.

The Magistrate said the prosecution was confined to the terms of the sum-

mons.

O.B.U. and Bolshevism.

MONEY FOR FIGHTING THEM.

The following letter is being extensively circulated amongst employers in Australia:—

Bolshevism in Auttralia.

The extreme Socialists and supporters of the I.W.W. movement are losing no opportunity to establish Bolshevism in Australia. As an illustration of this, at the One Bia Union Conference held in Melbourne recently, the following preamble was adopted:—

"Capitalism can only be abolished by the workers uniting in one class-conscious economic organisation to take and hold means of production by revolutionary, industrial, and political action. Revolutionary action means to secure a complete change, namely, the abolition of capitalistic ownership of the means of production—whether privately or through the State and the establishment in its place of social ownership by the whole community....

Here is the declaration of the Secretary of the Sydney Labour Council:—

"We will work by the creation of workshop committees. By this means the men will be got behind the scheme and no official can stand in the way. The

methods adopted by the German Bolsheviks at Hamburg are very suitable for Sydney. I am starting to effect a scheme on the lines of the Hamburg Soviets. The Russian Soviets system should be adopted here. We have already adopted it in our Committees. We must start a propaganda school like that of the Moscow Bolsheviks. Our working class can only get emancipated through the O.B.U., or, to give it its correct name, the Workers' Industrial Union."

The National Union is out to oppose the Bolshevik organisations, which aim at the destruction of democratic constitutional rule in Australia. — Yours faithfully.

WM. RIGGALL, Hon Treasurer, JOHN WEST, Secretary.

Liebknecht and Luxemburg.

HOW THEY DIED.

"The Red Flag" (Die Rote Fahne), the organ of the Spartacus Group in Germany contains the following particulars of the murder of these two outstanding Socialists and the subsequent farcical enquiry held by the Ebert Government. Comrades Oscar Rusch, member of the Central Council and Hugo Struve, member of the Central Council of the German Republic were summoned to attend the enquiry into the death of Liebknecht and Luxemburg. They declined to participate because the Government refused to arrest the criminals despite information repeatedly given.

They demanded a special commission to investigate the circumstances of the murders and that those found guilty of the deed and their accomplices should be tried in a civil court.

A reply in the negative was received from Messrs. Ebert and Landsberg. Thereupon a document giving the details of the double crime was sent to the Court of Law with the repeated request for the arrest of the criminals whose names were given: (1) Künge (Huntsman); (2) Drager (Huntsman); (3) Gottinger; (Chauffeur); (4) Probst (Sergeant); (5) Vogel (Lieutenant); (6) Grankow (Chauffeur); (7) Hall (Footman); (8) Petri (Captain). From the statement made by Drager, it seems that the persons from number one to four planned the murder of Dr. Rosa Luxemburg.

According to Drager's story these four decided that neither Dr. Karl Liebknecht nor Dr. Rosa Luxemburg should leave the Eden Hotel alive. The suggestion made by Runge was to shoot them just as they were being removed, and Drager advised against shooting, pointing out that the noise would attract attention, and recommended the but-ends of their guns as weapons. This course was decided upon, and the men unloaded their guns for safety. Dr. Liebknecht was laid low with one blow, but Dr. Luxemburg was given two blows on the head.

The persons mentioned from five to seven were accomplices, since they helped to conceal the bodies, and aided the murderers to escape. Dr. Rosa Luxemburg was supposed to be still living when these men dragged her body away, so if that be true, they are really guilty of her murder.

Scraps of conversation were overheard on the return of these men to the hotel, such as: "We took her over the bridge," "She's done for, she's floating by now." Petri is reported to have given the order that neither Dr. Liebknecht nor Dr. Luxemburg should reach the prison, for which they were bound, alive. When he heard of the success of his diabolical plan, he said: "The world should rejoice at being freed from these people who were guilty of such injury to the nation."

The dreadful truth is also disclosed that Comrades Liebknecht and Luxemburg were arrested without a warrant,

for this act, Messrs. Mohring and Lindney should be brought to judgment. On behalf of the Court, a reply to these indictments was sent to the effect that there was a warrant out for Runge; but that Gottinger did not come under military juvisdiction. The arrest of Capitain Petri was absolutely refused. Further conversations and correspondence with the Government representatives, who refused permission to the Liebknecht family to have a legal adviser present at the inquiry, convinced the friends of Comrades Liebknecht and Luxemburg that the Government inquiry was merely a sham.

All appeals for justice having failed, they now appeal to the general public to help to set aside the present military trial and make it possible for a civil trial to be carried through

trial to be carried through.

KARL LIEBKNECHT, son of William Liebknecht.

A Hint from Canada.

The idea of working out a means of better understanding between the organisations of returned soldiers and the Trade Unions took definite shape recently, when it was decided at Vancouver, B.C., to form a Returned Men's Association to act with delegates from the Central Labour bodies. A Joint Committee was appointed, consisting of twelve representatives of the Returned Men's Association and six each from the Trade and Labour Council and the Metal Trades Council. A "platform' was submitted and discussed. It called, among other things, for the nationalisation of natural resources, government operation of the basic industries, substantial reduction of the working day to six hours, and pensions and a bonus for partially disabled men when unemployed.

The War for World Domination.

From 1872 to 1914 colonies were in creased as follows, in millions of square miles:—

England from 72/3 to 12\frac{3}{4}.

Russia from 2\frac{1}{4} to 6\frac{5}{6}.

France from 3/5 to 4\frac{1}{2}.

Germany from nil to 1\frac{1}{3}.

To obtain the above increase England has been at war with Afghanistan, 1878-80; South Africa, 1881 and 1900; Egypt, 1882; Sudan 1896-9; and Somaliland, 1900—six wars.

France—with Tunis, 1881; Madagas-car, 1882-5: Annan, 1884-6; Tonkin, 1884-6; Madagascar, 1895-6; and Morocco, 1906-11—or six wars to the credit of France.

Russia—with Turkestan, 1873-81; Slav States and Turkey, 1877; Manchuria (China), 1898; Japan, 1904-5; and, Northern Persia, 1907. Five wars to the credit of Russia.

Germany has had no wars since 1870-1, and acquired her Colonies by consent, after England and France had helped themselves.

Since 1870 England has had 41 wars; France, 34; Russia, 28; Austria, 18; Germany, 16; and Turkey, 10.

Domination in foreign trade 1913-14:

England: Imports, £768,750,-000; exports, £634,800,000; total, £1,403,550,000.

Germany: Imports, £560,330,-000; exports, £510,000,000; total, £1,070,330,000.

Germany's population is 50 per cent. more, so her foreign trade was only half the amount of ours per head, so, who dominates the world? Why, England.

I read some time ago that the U boat was a U.S.A. invention. A few weeks since I read that it was a French invention. Poison gas invented by Lord Dundonald in 1855 for the Crimean war but not used. Four years ago we blockaded Germany for the purpose of starving 70 millions of people. When Germany used the U boats for the same purpose against us we cried "barbarous." We claim to have made our first air raid on Germany on September 23, 1914,

and on Cologne and Dusseldorf on October 8, 1914, while the first German air raid on England did not occur until December 24, 1914. The War Savings Association issued an official lecture on "War in the Air," and it states: "As soon as the war broke out the land machines of the R.N.A.S. went over to Belgium, and we were the first to drop hombs on German soil, at Cologne and Dusseldorf." Regret is expressed that we were forced back too far to enable us to bomb other German towns with the machines then available, and it is added: "It is interesting to note these were the first bombs dropped from the air in any war." So we take credit for doin first what we call the Germans barbarians doing later.—A.S.E. Monthly.

A Canadian expeditionary force stationed at Vancouver, B.C., on December 22, refused to proceed to Siberia.

Our Bankrupt System.

The problem facing the ruling class in all countries is to restore the position, economically, to what it was before the war. All their reconstruction schemes are based upon continuing the system of greed and grab under which they as a class will still exploit the workers. But there are factors in the case that render it impossible for the system to be reconstructed in harmony with their wishes. Economic factors that will not be denied, and will, irrespective of class interests, bring about

the downfall of the system. The economic forces operating in society, creating antagonism not only between possessing class and non-possessing class, but between groups or sections in these classes has brought about a situation of bankruptey in all industrial countries, a condition under which the working class must be content to accept their present status as wave slaves, at a money ware that is equivalent to a reduction in their subsistence level of livino, with the cost of living still rising. Or be prepared to organise to take control of the economic tools of production for the use of society as a whole. Ther have been told the economic limit had been reached when demands were made not meeting the wishes of the employing class. But they are stating the truth to-day as the system is bankrupt and unable to give. any more pallialives or reforms.

In Britain 950 million pounds stering is required to carry on the function of State, showing a deficit of 400 millions that will either have to be met by fresh taxation or loan, an insolvent position that is eating into the profits of the industrial capitalists, and compelling them to refuse any concessions of shorter hours and higher wages to

he workers.

· In South Africa the problem is just as acute. Gold production is the main industry, and owing to the increase in the cost of the materials necessary to carry on the gold industry, there has been a position created that has absorbed the profits of seventeen mines. Those in control of these mines have threatened to close them down, a threat held over the workers to intimidate them against demanding an increase in wages. Tet there are two factors that will deter those in control from carryho out this threat. First, the conprolling interests of the mines are the same interests, which dominate many of the firms which supply the raw material, machinery and motive power. To close down the non-paying mines means closing a market for the commodities produced by the subsidiary industries, thereby cutting off a source of revenue to those having the controlling interest. Secondly we have the part played by gold in our industrial system. Gold being the basis of credit is necessary to maintain the system. It is the regulator of credit to the banks, a shortage of gold means restricted credit with low prices and a small-turnover to be taxed by the Government, compelling them to raise further loans to carry on the business of State, thus complicating the situation without solving the problem of now to continue the system.

This is the aftermath referred to by Engels. The system is bankrupt as he predicted, and but awaits the awakened consciousness of the proletariat to take control and inaugurate the Socialist Commonwealth. J.M.G.

Syndicalism in Action.

The Natal papers stigmatised the Johannesburg Board of Control as the first Soviet of South Africa. It is good to have it acknowledged that Soviet is only another name for Workers' Control of industry. But you cannot grow first off thorns nor gain the Social Revolution until the political temperature is revolutionary. We have not yet locked out the capitalist class so long as we have to pay the takings into the masters' bank account.

The method of revolution taught us both by Marx and by events, still remains valid, namely to capture proletarian dictatorship as the first step. All other methods lead to the quandary we witnessed the other day: The workers nominally on strike but working the services in the interest of the public, and paying the takings into the masters' bank account; thus relieving their masters from any responsibility in the matter, and saving them from

coming to any decision.

Such experiments can only be successful by forcing the whole proletariat te capture control first of political power, preferably, through Soviets. Nothing is premature if it succeeds. A drop of water put into the pump often makes the pump give water. As such, our Johannesburg Board of Control might have started the revolution. But in the absence of political dictatorship the difficulties of management are made ten times more difficult. The revolutionary discipline which is necessary to replace capitalist discipline is moreover not there yet. And a failure will be advertised by the capitalist press as a splendid argument agalust Bolshevism and Soviet Control.

A Municipal Commune might materialise managed by a Workers' Council, if the capitalist lion will consent to lay down with the Soviet lamb. But.

that is a big IF.

D.I.J.

Liber y? in Australia.

SIX MONTHS FOR FLYING THE RED FLAG.

On Tuesday morning, at the City Court, Mr. Notley Moore leid down, as a condition, in the name of the 'law,' that Commides Mrs., Jensie Baines and Richard Bong would be allowed their freedom if they, provided a security of £25 each, and give a writter undertaking not to fix the Red Fig. Both promptly refused to agree to Mr. Moore's conditions, and he immediately ordered them to be imprisoned for six months.

ATTEBANK.

MORE TROUBLE.

A great meeting was held last Sunday afternoon, with Jim Sheehan in the chair. The other speakers were Mrs. Baines, H. R. Smith, R. H. Long and N. Villiers. Several flags were arrested. One bystander—a returned soldier, by the way—was also arrested because the constable grabbed the stick of the flag and not the bunting, and all sorts of charges were then and there laid.

N.B.—No Red Flag flew at Trades Hall, Melbourne, on Paris Commune Day, 18th March.—"The Socialist," Melbourne and Sydney, 21st March.

"The Passing Phases."

Judging by recent editorial articles, our local press editors have been indulging in a vast amount of speculation anent the situation in Central Europe and Russia. Is it any wonder, then, if leader writers, whose job it is (and for which they are paid) to give a lead to and stuff an "opinion" into the "public" mind, that at times they get badly left?

Frinstance! we were told, in effect, only the other day that very shortly the Bolsheviks would be "cleaned up." whereas now we are told that it is the Allied forces who have cleared out, and incidentally we are told that Lloyd George is preparing to slide over to the

Biberal camp.

The fact of the matter is that a vast population of proletarian's and small. pegants having decided, to throw the incubus of a tyrannical/minority off its back takes the reins of administration into its own hands using the methods of lis own choice, viz. local councils composed of workers, returned soldiers and peasants and door the job or to put it another way labour having acquired mass consciousness organises itself and formulates its own tactics and constiiution. Thus constituted Russia stands invincible against all the wiles of capitalist conspirators, both from within. is and from the whole world without.

Of course the capitalist press editor could not put it that way and keep his job, and so the situation had to be tobscure."

As regards Central Lurope we were told inat the German Government had the situation well in hard, and now we are fold that "the situation is obscure," and that Guards Regiments are unreliable, that the authorities are only waiting to get 30,000 troops to invest Munich and that Russian prisoners are being released to help. What does, it all mean, and what about the balance of the world -- the United States of America, the remaining colonies. Italy, the neutral countries? Have they dropped of the map. Ireland, Egypt and India appear to be making a bid for self-determination in spite of the efforts of their exploiters to save them all for Democracy.

The highly-colourion report in the "Rand Dally Mail" of a trilling incidon't at the otherwise burge and aftendive meeting which shot for three hous on Sunday evenier ouiside the Town Hell revenue of the the sinister molives of such possible of the capitalist class. That as an inti-dew pogrom is being worked up is quite clear from, repeated reference in the press to the Russian, the alien and the foreigner who is supposed to be in the majority at the International meetings. It is a peculiarity of the foreigner to drop his aitches? One rather associates such cries as "It im! it im" with the Cockney than the Bolshevik. It is worthy of notice that an advertisement appeared in the "Sunday Times" on the morning of the meeting inviting "Returned Soldiers and Thinkers" to attend the meting of the I.S.L. For what purpose perhaps the Unionist Club may be the best judge. Hooligans were there as arranged, and stink bombs, but most of the returned soldiers have learned too much of the capitalists' and profiteers dodges to take an active part in interrupting working men's meetings.

The Bolshevik Octopus.-"Mark II."

In reference to the article of the "Sunday Times," April 14th, "The Bolshevik Octopus," the author of which (in common with others of his ilk who are advertising their ignorance in papers like the above) would do well to get a copy of the I.S.L. of South Africa's pamphlet, "The Workers' Revolution in Russia," and read it up. Take a little more water with it, then see smental specialist and get him to inject the virus of truth into his being. Then after a month at the coast, he might work up an article more in keeping with the times. (Not 'Sunday Times.") This other muck is played out, people are about "fed up" with it, and are asking laughingly: "What's the Bolsheviks been up to to-day?" Rats at 106s. per pound. Rats!

We must not be too severe on the author of the above, for his accounts of the meeting at the Albert Hall in London, in a measure, compensates and tones down the rest of his piffile. He mentions MacLean's opinion of President Wilson as a "brazen-faced scoundrel." I know quite a few who would have caused an interruption by shouting "Hear, hear!" But either our author or Mac must have overlooked Wilson's sparring partner, Lloyd George, the pair should be bracketed ander that title. The names of the speakers at that meeting ; Israel Zangwill, Silvia Pankhurst, Jerome K. Jerome, Countess of Warwick, Carthal O'Shannon, etc., make one half-inclined to believe that we have talent and intelligence in our ranks nearly the equal of such great minds os Bailey. Marks (not Karl), "Sammy," and Albu.

Just a word about the illustration of the "Octoms" article. The Octopus makes quite a good Bolshevik; but why put a typical working man in its coils?" The artist (leke the author) has drifted miles from a true representation of the subject. The Octopus should have had the strangle-hold on an over-rine empidalist. The tail hat falling from his fat, hairless pate, the diamond stud, three chins, and a surplus of fat haming from his neck to his kidneys, and being dragged on of a Rolls Rovee coming the net of sinting "to flee from the Social Revolution."

ETTISTED SOUTH

Granks at Cuessia.

Com. Athan: Pournara writes: With reference to D.J.J.'s article I should like to point out that any fair-thinking man can see that D.I.J. is right. Greeks all over the world know the Tsar's policy towards Greece for centuries past. Were the late Tsar in power to-day, Greece would have not a hope of freeing any of her sons now under Turkish rule. I think every Greek that loves free om ought to lift up his voice-and demand the withdrawal of the Greek troops from Russia, where the Bolsheviks are not only gaining their freedom, but are now fighting to free the world from the united capitalist class of the world.

League Notes.

INTERNATIONAL MAY DAY.

The arrangements for the celebration of May Day are now almost complete. The final meeting of the May Day Committee will be held in the Palmerston Hall, on Sunday, 27th inst., at 10 a.m. The resolutions to be put at the public demonstration on May Day are as follows:--

1. That this mass meeting of workers assembled on May Day declares its Solidarity with the labouring masses of all lands, acclaims the Proletarian Revolution throughout the world, and pledges itself to do all in its power to bring about the overthrow of the Capitalist system and substi-Co-operative Commontute the wealth.

2. We declare that the policy of the League of Nations but thinly veils an attempt by the capitalist rulers to further enslave the workers of the world. That the trend of events since this signing of the armistice proves that the Capitalist Classes in both the Allied Countries and the Central Powers have united to crush the Revolutionary Proletariat. Therefore we demand the immediate withdrawal of those Allied troops who have been sent to eruch the Revolution in the different

countries. 3. That the Working Class produces all the wealth of the world. That it is and has always been robbed of the major portion of the fruits of its labour by the exploiting class, and that there can be no peace till the Capitalist System is destroyed. By organisation at the point of production in industries the workers can take and hold the means of life. To da this there must be no divisions. along the lines of Craft, Sex or Race. but all workers must unite as a class not merely to stop industry or cain small concessions, but to take hold and run all industries for the benefit of the workers and for them alone. The tickets for the Social to be held

in the Solborne Hall on the evening of May 1st, are selling rapidly. Those wishing to be present should secure dickets at once as there are only a limited number. A Explessid programme of minic has been alranged. There will be show add over the following provided, tieffels, 2s. 6d. from the commillion or the Head Office. Toppes Buildings, Fox Street.

Din air meding. Perris Corner. Satisfar 201 in the Alexander ers: W. H. Androws and E. Ohol.

A public me includible held in the Bolomy Ton Laons on Sunday, April 27th, at 8 n.m.: Speaker: I. Jaffe (in Yiddish).

Adult Study Class at the same place ever Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

JOHANNESSURG BRANCH.

Open sir meetings:---

Safurday, 26th, 8 p.m., C.r. Maddison and Marshall Sis, Jennes, Speakers: T. P. Tinker and H. Barendregt; I. Kessler (chairman).

Town: Hall (West: End): Sunday 27th, 7.30 p.m. Speakers: W. II. Andrews, C. Dones. R. Rodger.

Study Class: Friday, May 2nd, p.m., in Palmerston Hall. Commissioner Street.

CERMISTON BRANCH.

General meeting of members Tuesday, May 6th, at 7.30 p.m. in Colin Wade's Surgery, 119. Victoria Street.

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH.

Open air meeting corner Ferreira and Commissioner Sts., on Sunday, 27th, at 9.30 a.m. Speakers (in Yiddish): I. Jaffe, A. Goldman, J. J. Hornstein. General meeting, May 4th, at 10

a.m. in Palmerston Hall.

The Secretary (I. Kessler, Box 2202) requests courades to return money and unsold tickets for the Social as soon as possible; also books borrowed from the library. No further books will be is sued until further notice.

PRETORIA BRANCH.

On Sunday, April 27th, open air meeting, Church Square, at 8 p.m. Speaker: T. P. Tinker.

CILBERT AND SULLIVAN UP.TO. DATE.

"When everybody's somebody, then no one's anybody," seems to be the case with the legions of titled nobodies nowadays. The Canadian people evidenily are getting sick of the "honours" which confer no distinction and give rise to ridicule rather than respect, and the Parliament at Ottawa only avoided a definite décision against titles given by the British authoritties by a shelving amendment. Yet our South African Republicans and Labour men gleefully accept these mouldy relics of feudalism and fail to see the degradation that such titles bring.

The People's Russian Information Burea, 152, Fleet Street, London, issues leastlets at intervals to counteract the tainted statements, contained in the forinightly called the "Russian Commonwealth," edited by Poliakoff-Litovzteff, a violent reactionary. In the Essue of 15th March we are given an insight into the methods of the British capitalist Government in dealing with Russia. In spite of the repeated statements of Movd George that no intervention is being carried on in Russia every assistance is given the counterrevolutionaries and French, British and Italian men of war were in Odessa supplied Denikin's army with munitions and troops. The Allied forces in South Russia number 160.000 (the latest cables indicate that these are rapidly clearing out). Recruiting Bureaux are oven in Stockholm for the supply of mercenary troops to attack the Baltic Provinces in definice of the Hague Convention. Where the money comes tio mis a mystery. But may be guessed at. Swedish and Norwegian Socialists have signed a protest and threaten to oven bureaux for recruits for the revoiutionary forces if the overnment persists in its illegal recruiting.

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

To ensure receipt of paner thereafter. Postal Order for 5s., being one year's subscription post free, must be sent during the four weeks to the "International." Box 4179, Johannesburg.

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