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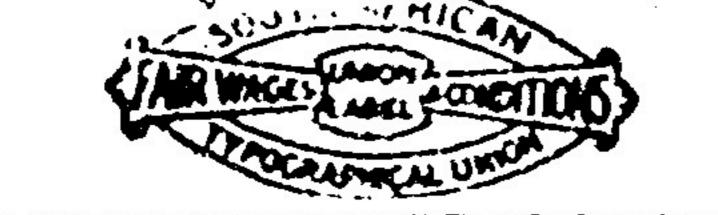
THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

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No. 18:



FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1919

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

"Living Dangerously"

A "BLACK BILL."

A few weeks ago the break-up of an I.S.L. open-air meeting was referred to in Parliament in terms suggesting that that act of "violence had been fadvocated, encouraged, threatened or suggested" by more exalled personages than those who actually took part in it, with a view to furnishing evidence of the meed for that anti-Bolshevik legislation for which the kep; press had so fong clamoured. The Government incontinently fell in with Sir T. Smartt's demand. Later on it was stated that such a Bill could probably not be reached this is ession; but last Friday Mr. de Wet, Minister of Justice, probably under pressure from powerful mining and agrarian interests resting mainly on the exploitation of native labour, refurned to his muttous by malishing the draft with a statement that no would introduce it at an early date; and although it may still not become law before Parliament riscs--delay being perhaps necessary if only to get the British Government's consent (no doubt in advance according to recent enstorn) to the colour discrimination claimes, get it annet be assumed that the attempt will be made.

Terms of the Bill.

The Bill is expressed to amend the Public Welfara and Moratorium Act, the operation of which it extends until twelve months after the date proclaimed as the termination of the war. It gives the Governor-General special powers to prohibit or restrict the publication hy speech, writing or otherwise of

(1) Matter wherein unlawful or violent acts er methods, are advocated, encouraged. threatened or suggested for the purpose of essecting changes in political, industrial or

economic conditions, or

(2) Matter wherein members of the aboriginal races of Africa are exherted or incited to break labrial contracts of employment, or to refuse to obey, or to resist the enforcement of, any law or statutory regulation applicable to them, or

(3) Matter which is calculated to cause disaffection, ill-will or hostility amongst members of those races towards other sections

of the community, or

(4) Matter relating to any precautions which are being taken to preserve order or

public safety.

The Bill also makes it an offence to be a member of any association which by its conscitution or propaganda advocates etc., as per (1) above: and declares that it shall be evidence of membership of such association

(a) Knowingly to attend a meeting thereof or remain thereat after the character of the meeting has become apparent; (with an exception in fayour of those attending "on the instructions of the Minister of Justice," i.e., ('.I.D., etc.)

(b) To address an assembly of 5 or more persons in advocacy of such an association or of its objects dr of acts, etc., as per (1) above (c) To supply or distribute leastets, pamph-

lets, etc., advocating, etc.

(d) To collect, receive, offer or give subscriptions to such an association or in sup-

port of such advocacy, etc.

The penalty for such membership is imprisonment for not exceeding six months, without the option. (The penalty for publication of matter, etc., as above apparently remains to be fixed by regulations to be framed hereafter by the Governor-General.)

There is also provision for registration of aliens, on which we may comment later. Those who have lived in Germany or Russia will be able to compare it with the similar

but less onerous provisions there; and for that matter Englishmen under the Munitions and D.O.R.A. acts and natives of South Africa under our existing laws can testily as to the acceptability of pass systems. We have always foretold that whites would sooner or later he put under pass laws, and here is the beginning.

Effect of the Bill.

The Bill is roundly described in the Cape : Press as the "anti-Bolshevik Bill," and it is clearly designed to break up the 1.S.L.: for the mere provisions against inciting to violence are superfluous, there being plenty of laws already under that head. But it is also obvious that it will affect many others besides "Bolsheviks," whoever they may be. For instance:--

Any Trade Union, Federation of Trade Unions. Strike Committee or the like, or member of klie same, suggesting, etc., a strike contrary to the Industrial Disputes Act in order to effect changes, in industrial conditions, or anyone remaining at a meeting where such suggestion is made.

Anyone proposing to break up a meeting socas to change or retard the normal transition to a "New Order" of secrety.

Anyone suggesting that persons favouring such New Order should be put up against a wall and shot.

Republicans or Nationalists suggesting military organisation to kecure their ends.

British patriots supporting the attitude of Sir E. Carson, F. E. Smith, General Gough,

etc., with regard to Ulster.

The press, whether lecal or imported from oversea, reporting any advocacy in any part of the world of violent acts, etc.: e.g., Churchill's speeches or Lenin's alleged speeches.

A Native Congress or Indian Association urging passive resistance to the Pass Laws,

Immigration Laws, etc.

Cabinet Ministers, Mayors, magistrates, Native Affairs officials, etc., holding up those wicked Socialists to the execration of natives, and thus propagating native hostility to the Socialist section.

"The Star," the Rev. Charles Phillips, etc., stirring up ill will among coloured building workers towards white building trade strikers.

Miners, farmers, etc., advocating a d----d nigger policy, keeping the nigger in his place. the rule of the sjambok, etc.—matter surely calculated to cause disaffection among the said niggers towards such miners and farmers.

Newspapers reporting, e.g., that a detachment et peliee wich machine guns has procould to the collicries in view of a strike there.

In fact, the I.S. L. is probably the one body or party in Africa which the Bill does not touch, for it: advocacy has always been against the methods condemned by the Act. and as regards natives it has preached solidarity with the whites in place of the existing disaffection.

Down With the Bill!

But after all we are not concerned with the wording of the Bill, but with its probable administration. For any far-reaching change in political, industrial or economic conditions is liable to entail violence on the part of the privileged class adversely affected by it. When the Transveal Provincial Council proposed land values taxation, for instance, the agrarian party always proclaimed that they would resist any such taxation with the rifle. Similarly the violence in Russia is the counter-revolution of the minority who formorly ruled the roost there, and of the Allies who are aiming at economic "concessions" in and control of the country and above all atring to strangle by violent methods the Bo-

cialist movement adopted by the mass of the inhabitants. It is the opponents of Socialism, not its advocates, that are guilty of and responsible for the unlawful and violent acts: the Socialists merely foresee them.

But it is no new thing to hold "judicially" that any revolutionary or even reform party like the Labour Party, because it advocates changes liable to be violently resisted, therefore and thereby advocates violent acts or metheds; just as nowadays if you are mobbed you are liable to be prosecuted for assaulting the mob, and it will soon be made an offence to be tarred and festiliered!...

As for natives, you can always get native "experts" from the Department or otherwise to swear that when you tell a native hot to be violent, he takes that to mean "kill. kid": and the Courts will find accordingly. It seems clear that the Bill concemplates and intends such judicial lindings; in short, that it aims at incaredrating Secialists as such.

. Nincisca conturies ago a noted revolutionary, who, by the way, also "spoke openly to the world, where all the people came together, and in secret spoke nothing, was charged with "perverting the nation, stirring up the people, forbidding to giver tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is a king

in fact, contravening the Public Welfare and Moratorium Act. The evidence was false and contradictory, but that did not prevent the infliction of the death penalty. One sequel of his propaganda has been endless "violence," ill will, disaffection, wars, etc., down. the ages: "I bring not peace but a sword." Yet will Mr. do Not say the Gospels are "niatter wherein unlawful or violent acts are advocated? If so, the Bible Society must be added to the above list of future victims of the Bill.

Ultra Bismarckian, ultra Tsarist, reactionary and repressive legislation like this is calculated to cause untold violence wherever it is imposed. If this Bill becomes law and is applied as it is obviously designed to be applied, it must in the long run, when . its true effect is realised, cause such violent outbreaks among both) whites and blacks that the first man who should be prosecuted under it is its publisher. Mr. de Wet, Minister of "Justice." our local "Rowlatt," himself.

Arrangements are on foot for public meetings of citizens in Johannesburg and Cape ! Town to protest against the above Bill. Particulars will be announced later.

The Selborne Hall has been engaged for the purpose of holding a public lecture on June 12th. We intend to answer our critics there and clear up some of the slanders and innuendoes which have been levelled at us during the last few weeks by the capitalist press. Speakers and resolutions will be announced in our next issue. This is the answer to the "Mail" canard re "secret" meetings, We have nothing to hide, on the contrary we seek the widest publicity for our principles.

An aggregate meeting of all members of the League in Town and Reef will be held this Sunday, June 1st, at 11 a.m. at the Palmerston Hall, to deal with the various elements of the present_critical_situation_ No comrade must be absent on this occasion, and Branch Secretaries will please ensure the presence of every member of their branches.

THE CAPE TOWN "BOLSHEVIST" CASE.

The case against the Cape Town Comrades is postponed till June 3rd. We are informed that the entire evidence for the prosecution was ruled out, and the prosecutor can with the C.I.D. now seek to obtain fresh evidence.

The Soviet in Canada.

The exhilarating news. in last. Monday's "Star" was instantly smothered by a belated "Hist, not a word," from the Censor, which suggests the sort of news that is suppressed nowadays, and raises speculations as to how much more such news is being and has been kept back. Of course this, like all similar movements according to that view of the world with which the bourgeois would spoonfeed us, was, if not a totally inexplicable and unjustified outbreak, at any rate the mere result of inalevolent plots on the part of alien agitators bent on nothing more interesting or fruitful than the downfall of the British Empire. Or again, the affair may prove to be only a few degrees more significant or longlived than our Johannesburg "Soviet" of the other day (where by the way the "alien" influonco, was untraceable), although every increase of shullition points to more. But that it had no setting, and was a mere bult from the blue, is disproved by the proceedings, reported in the "Western Labour News" of Winnipeg, of the Western Inter-Provincial Labour Convention held in that town last March—a pleasing contrast with our recent Bloemfontein Congress -- and described as as "the most important convention ever held in the North American Continent." Incidentally we have scoured the detailed report of those proceedings for a single alien name among those participating, but find they are practically all obtrusively British—and about time too.

The resolutions below, all carried unanimously by the assembled vote of organised labour of Western Canada, differ from some others we have read of by having been pretty closely followed up, it seems, by action. Here

is the first of them:---

"Realising that the aims and objects of the labour movement should be the improving of the social and economic conditions of society, and the working class in particular. And whereas the present system of production for profit and the institutions resulting therefrom prevent this being achieved; be it therefore resolved that the aims of labour as represented by this convention are the abolition of the present system of production for profit, and the substitution therefor of production for use, and that a system of propaganda to this end be earnied out."

The next was on "thic Big United Times. and also followed the example of the Italian Socialist Party's secession from the old Intermational, reported in last week's issue.

"Resolved that tills convention recommend. to organised labour/in this Dominica the severance of the present affiliation with the international organisation. And that steps be taken to form an industrial organisation of all workers. And that a circular letter outlining the proposed plan of organisation, by sent out to the various organisations. And that a referendum on the question be taken on the same. The votes east of Port Arthur to be compiled separately from those of the Wost."

In the course of the Convention a telegram was received from the Seamen's Union of America, complimenting the Convention on "sounding the death-knell of Gompersism": and a wire was sent to Ottawa demanding the immediate release of all political prisoners and the repeal of Orders in Council restraining the liberties of the Workers, a reply to be given before the Convention adjourned. The absence of any reported reply helps no doubt partly to account for the subsequent Winnipeg strike and Sovietawhich, by the way, the "authorities" seem to have failed, as at Belfast, to convert into affairs of "violence," or we should have heard all about it.

Next came a resolution demanding a sixhour work day, five days a week; and there was also a condemnation of the old American practice of lobbying, as follows:--

"Whereas, great and drastic changes have taken place in the industrial world, and

"Whereas, in the past the policy of the Organised Workers of this Country in sending their provincial and Dominion Executives to

the Legislative Assemblies pleading for the passage of legislation which is rarely passed, and which would be futile if it were, is now obsolete;

"Therefore be it resolved, that this Conference of Western Workers lay down as its policy the building up of an Organisation of Workers on industrial lines for the purpose of enforcing by virtue of their industrial strength such demands as such organisations may at any time consider necessary for their continued maintenance and well-being, and shall not be, as here-to-fore, sending Executive Officers to plead before Legislatures for the passing of legal palliatives which do not palliate."

The chief remaining resolutions are a fitting wind up:

"That the interests of all Members of the Working-Class being identical, that this Body of Workers recognises no alien but the Capitalist; also that we are opposed to any wholesale immigration of Workers from various parts of the World and who would be brought here at the request of the Ruling Class."

"That this Convention declares its full acceptance of the principal of Proletariat Dictatorship' as being absolute and efficient for the transformation of capitalistic private property to communal wealth, and that fraternal greetings he sent to the Russian Soviet Government, the Spartacans in Germany, and all definite working-class movements in Europe and the World, recognising they have won first place in the history of the class strug-

"Whereas, holding the belief in the ultimate supremacy of the Working Class in matters economic and political, and that the light of modern developments have proved that the legitimate aspirations of the labour movement are repeatedly obstructed by the existing political forms, clearly show the capitalistic nature of the parliamentary machinery, this Convention expresses its open conviction that the system of Industrial Soviet Control by selection of Representatives, from Industries is more efficient and of greater political value than the present form of Government.

"Be it resolved that this Conference places itself on record as being in full accord and sympathy with the aims and purposes of the Russian Bolshevik and German Spantacan Revolutions, and, be it further resolved, that we demand immediate withdrawal of all Allied troops from Russia; and further, that this Conference is in favour of a General Strike on June 1st should the Allies persist in their aftempt to withdraw the Soviet administration in Russia or Germany, and that a system of propaganda be carried out and that a referendum vote be taken."

Pusilimous Päriametariams.

In a recent debate in the English House of Commens on the "alleged overtures the Bolshevik regime in Russia to the Peace "Conference in Paris," Brigadier-General Page Crost and Lieut.-Col. Guinness suggested that some members of Parliament supported the Bolsheviks. Did any man ery out: "Yes, we are proud to stand by our fellow workers in their fight for Socialism"? No. on the contrary, the Labour Members broke out into cries of protest against the suggestion that they had any such sympathies. Bottomlev rewarded them by an assurance of "the profoundest and most affectionate respect." The Home Secretary hammered in the point, saying the debate had called forth" from every quarter of the House an indignant repudiation that the House contained a single Bolshevik sympathiser." He described the Soviet Government as "a mere gang of bloodthirsty ruffians," and said it would strengthen the hands of the Government to know there is "no quarter" for any Soviet supporters, at any rate in the British House of Commons. Even then there was no protest!

On April 10, the day after the House of Commons had thus expressed itself, the first contingent of volunteers set sail for Russia.

Movements of Troops.

American soldiers and sailors have formed a Council in Chicago. It proposes "to make the United States a fine place for human beings." It is "not interested in the making of millionaires and political heroes" but. "in giving every man and woman a chance to participate in the best things of life." It says "we meet in the streets of Chicago thousands of our comrades who are idle and penniless. They can beg, steal or depend on their sisters."

The other day the body of a Bloemfontein man was found on Signal Hill. Near the body was found a bottle containing laudanum. The man had, it is said, been unable to obtain employment. He had been in German West, where he was doing police work.

The Merion (England) Committee of Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Dependants has written to Lloyd George demanding the immediate withdrawal of Allied troops from Russia, and that the Russian people be left to manage their own affairs as they think

Here is a resolution showing what soldiers -

are thinking in Britain:-

This Federation of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers in Congress assembled at Glasgow on 12th April, 1919, hereby enters its protest against the organised attempt by the scullions of unscrupulous vested interests in and out of Parliament to establish in Britain that very system of militarism, bureaucracy, and absolutism which, in entering the war, we sought to crush. It would seem that instead of making the 'world safe for Democracy,' we have sacrificed ourselves merely to uproot the evil system in the Central Empires and plant it in our own country.

Solemn pledges made by responsible Government officials and given wide publicity in the Press have, one after another, been treated as 'mere scraps of paper' in the

true Prussian fashion.

We find Conscription — the bed-rock of Militarism-being foisted upon the nation in lieu of the freedom we fought for. We find that great financial concessions are granted to commercial interests whose active participation in the war took the form of plain profitteering; while on the other hand, those who fought and suffered and whose lives have been blighted are treated like criminal paupers, and require to fight a system of circumlocation and Prussian-like, bureaucracy in order to get sufficient doles in shillings and pence to keep them from starving and being thrown on the streets by the owners of tenement 'dug-outs,' misnamed, houses.

We find that an attempt is being made by the British Huns to start another war, this time against the people of Russia, making use of Conscription to get the men they could not get voluntarily. We find that the lives of many British soldiers have already been lost in the fighting in Russia, against whom we have never declared war; and we wish it to be understood that we hold the British authorities—not the Russians—responsible for the deaths of every one of these men.

We find that the promoters of the old German system in this country, in order to further their vile scheme, propose to pervert our children in our public schools by making mili-

tarist instruction compulsory under the guise of 'physical training.'

Therefore he it resolved that we, the Federation of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers in Congress assembled this 12th day of April, 1919, do hereby pledge ourselves to do whatever lies in our power, by means of publicity. to abolish Conscription, prevent the war Russia, and give the knock-out' to the Huns at home.

Mr. J. R. Clynes, on april 2nd, said: "I can see no justification for military intervention in Russia, and military operations, if attempted on any large scale, would rouse the. strongest resentment in this country." We are impatient for outward and visible signs of that resentment.

Imperial Violer ce.

The "Bombay Chronicle" of the 3rd April published a message from its Delhi correspondent, giving the statement of Swami Sradhananda (late Mahatma Munshi Ram, Principal of the Gurukula, Hardwar) who was an eye-witness to the scenes which resulted in loss of life on the 30th March (when a protest meeting had been called for 4 p.m. to pass a resolution against the Rowlatt Bills):—

rom the morning. At two, some gentlemen came running from the railway station saying that, as some people asked the station shops to close, a European railway official came and threatened them. When told it was no business of his to interfere, he had whistled to the police, who took two men out of the collected mass in custody. The masses said that if their men were given up they would go away. Then the police began to belabour them with sticks, and soldiers with a machine-gun were arriving when they left to report to me.

"I left immediately for the railway station. There I heard that the machine-gun had fired indiscriminately and about a dozen had either been killed or wounded, the bodies being dragged into the station yard. Those but included a railway passenger with one wo-

man-so they said.

"On the Congress grounds, the number was swelling and had risen to 25,000 (40,000 later on), and I was addressing them exhorting them to act like Satyagrabis and to control their sorrow and anger: whatever oppression they suffered they would bear with patience. When intelligence reached that "gora" soldiers had fired near the Clock Tower and that another dozen or so had been pierced with bullets, some began to be excited and I again managed to pacify them. . . .

The Chief Commissioner said that no machine-gun was fired near the Clock Tower. I said in that case, I could reassure the people, saying that no people had been injured near she Clock Tower. The Chief Commissioner on this quietly said rifles were fired, not a machine-gun. Then came on the inquiry from me, 'Was anybody injured?' The reply was, I do not know and therefore cannot so.'.

The Chief Commissioner went away saying that if the meeting dispersed quietly, neither the military nor the police would interfere, the meeting then went on. The resolution to be sent to Mr. Montagn was adopted unanim-

misty.

"I asked-the hugesaudience to follow me and to leave quietly. When near their resilences we were walking in order. When we were nearing the Clock Tower Gurkhas were in the middle of the road in the double file facing both ways. On sceing us they marched For right feetboard. We thought they had lest to enable us to pass, but when we reached near them a rifle was fired into the crowd. There was a stir and a deep tone of resentment. But I asked all to halt and they obeyed. In my sanvasi dress I went up to the footpath alone and asked the Gurkhas why they were firing on innocent peaceful people. I wo rifles were immediately pointed at me and hey begair saying in a very insolent tone tum ko chhed denge,' ('we will pierce you.') I stood quietly before them and said "main khara hun, goli chhalao.' ('I am standing, fire.') At once eight or ten more risles were aimed at my breast and insolent threats went

"The crowd could contain itself no longer and was about to rush, when a wave of my hand and a short appeal stopped them. But they were saying, 'Let us die and not you, let us die.' The rifles had remained pointed at my breast for some three minutes, when a European approached on horseback. I told him to mark the scene and the rifles at once went down in my presence.

"The European on horseback asked the only policeman present whether he had ordered the soldier to fire. The policeman denied having ordered firing. I stepped forward and asked the European officer whether he heard the rifle fire. He impatiently answered that he was enquiring about it.

Then there was a strange sight. A Gurkha came near me brandishing his naked khukhri right and left. No one being cowed down he left. The machine-gun motor was rattling away encircling us, with the gun constantly pointed at us and with the hand of the gunner on it. The crowd was neither cowed down nor impatient."

"Indian Opinion" (Durban) of the 16th inst., from which we take the foregoing, contrasts this scene with the dramatic rounding up of the South African rebels in 1914, and General Botha's anxiety that, if it could be avoided, not a shot should be fired at those armed men who were guilty of high treason, robbery and murder; whereas at Delhi "it is clear that the men were absolutely unarined. An Indian crowd is the easiest in the world to disperse." The real contrast is between treatment of fellow exploiters and treatment of exploitees. The workers of South Africa may expect Delhi methods any day.

"Satyagraha," it is explained, implies abstention from violence in any shape or form. That does not prevent "the authorities" from using violence and then accusing their victims of it! But as the same paper says, "because violence may perhaps take place, is it the duty of honest protesters to remain silent and swallow insult and degradation without murmur?"

A recent Indian mass meeting at Durban called upon those who were officially representing the community on the Peace Celebration Committee to resign, as there could be no peace celebrations for Indians in South Africa whilst their countrymen in India were groaning under the Rowlatt laws.

Here are some words of John Stuart Mill that help to throw light on the situation—there and here.

"The government of a people by itself has a meaning and a reality; but such a thing as government of one people by another does not, and cannot, exist. One people may keep another as a warren or preserve for its own use, a place to make money in, a human cattle farm to be worked for the profits of its own inhabitants. But if the good of the government, it is utterly impossible that a people should directly attend to it."

And, as has been said recently, "The Bri-

ground and themselves be free."

-A Serbian correspondent, objects to M. Pichon's statement, taken over by us from the "Norkdrs' Dreadnought" of April 5, that there were lover 150,000 Serbians in Russia fighting the Soviet Government. He does not think that number of Serbian soldiers is left in the world, and thinks that Siberians must be meant. There was no mis-print so far as we are conderned. We had a similar protest the other day from a Greek comrade. When will people learn that neither Capitalism nor Socialism knows any boundaries, but that by playing on "Patriotism" or "nationalism" capitalists can get the ignorant masses of any country, Britain and Serbia included, to dance to any tune? Our correspondent says "Our Jugoslav Government has refused the Allied request to invade Hungary which is also a Bolshevist State"—yes, but according to the "Evening News" this was because the Allies had not yet recognised the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. But we hope and believe the Serbian workers too are beginning to discover what game they are pawns in. Besides, no doubt the term "Serbian Army," like the "Esthonian" and the "Finnish," covers a multitude of any miscellaneous elements the Allies, by conscription or confusion, can assemble to fight Socialism. Finally, these "new nations" are not free. The "Times" says "Great Britain has made herself responsible for the railway communications (sic) in Poland, the Baltic States, the Caucasus and the Don. Country. Czecho-Slovakia and Yugo-Slavia have been allotted to the United States." As the "Morning Post" has it: "The cant ory of the self-determination of peoples' is, we believe, a German invention."

The Bagmen at Paris.

A Yankee Soviet Government is needed to expose the secret motives for America's entry into the war, as the Russian Government exposed the secret treaties between the European Powers.

American capitalists have gained by the war substantial advantages in China; they have done some very remunerative trading with the Allies and have lent them much money on exceedingly profitable terms.

Then again, America wants undisputed possession of Mexico and its wonderful oil fields, which the Mexican Government is endeavouring to re-nationalise.

But American capitalists are not alone in claiming the right to exploit Mexico. British capitalists have sunk even more capital than Americans there. When a big Power wishes to seize a small nation, the only protection for the small nation is the jealousy of the other Great Powers, which protest loudly against the annexation, but usually explain, more quietly, that if adequate compensation is offered, not to the small nation in question, but to themselves, they will withdraw their objections. The required compensation often takes the form of permission to exploit or annex the territory of some other small nation.

Now then, in consideration of the American capitalists acquiescing in control by British capitalists of the German Colonies, Palestine, Mesopotamia and Persia, Spitzbergen, and, for the present, dominion of the seas, the British capitalists will abstain from making a fuse when the American ones presently annex Mexico.

But America is not vet satisfied. President Wilson ordered his ship. It is said he was dissatisfied with the slow progress made at the Paris Conference. Perhaps he was: but it is also said that American capitalists desired to sell to France and Italy motor tractors and other goods and that France and Italy refused the offer. Since then it is said the Americans have obstructed the Peace Conference, and are bringing pressure on the Allies by threatening to sell the rejected goods to Soviet Russia -a step which would greatly assist who latter-instead of waiting to trade with Russia when the Soviets are deseated and eapitalism re-established.— (From the "Workers' Dreaduought.")

Similarly the bubble of capitalist/magnanimity is pricked by the rumour that America's desire to feed the millions in Germany and Russia was due to the influence being exercised upon Hoover and Wilson by the Chicago millionaires, who want big orders. "For years," says the "Daily News" of 20th January last, "the packers have exercised a sinister influence over legislation at Washington." Under capitalism, says the "Socialist," starvation means profit.

MURDER OF SOCIALISTS NO CRIME.

"A French court has sentenced Cotton to death for the attempted murder of M. Clemenceau, but has pronounced that the killing of Jaures, the noblest Frenchman of his day, by Villain was no murder. It is this same political France, whose official spokesmen are the protagonists of the old diplomacy, that proclaims a crusade against Russia, assails the League of Nations and would pass millions under the yoke of foreign domination."—("Manchester Guardian," March 31st, 1919.) In mail week, strikes were afoot in protest against the acquittal of Villain, and the Municipal Council of Toulouse had also protested against it.

Anatole France has sent the following appeal to "Humanite": "The assassin of Jaures is declared not guilty. Workers! Jaures lived for you, died for you. An abominable verdict proclaims his assassination is not a crime. This verdict puts you, and all those who defend your cause, beyond the pale of the law. Workers! he on your guard!"

Russian Workers and the Control of Industry.

(Points from a Statement supplied by the People's Russian Information Bureau.)

November, 1917, the Russian capitalists had begun a policy of sabotage against their own works and mills, in order, as one of them publicly stated, that the "bony hand of hunger might seize the Revolution by the throat" and strangle it. With this end in view manufacturers began shutting down their works, hiding away raw material; fuel and essential parts of machinery. When threatened by reprisals on the part of the workers, they frequently absconded, leaving the managers to settle with the workers as best they could.

Most of the work of nationalisation was carried out by the Regional Economic Councils and local Soviets on their own initiative. Two hundred and sixty-four concerns or more than ohe-half of the total were nationalised by the Regional Economic Councils, 123 concerns, or 24 per cent. by the local Soviets, whilst the central Soviet Government itself, the Council of People's Commissaries, nationalised duly 100 concerns, or 24 per cent. This shows that the policy of nationalisation, so far from being the dishelical invention of Lenin or Trotsky, was essentially the policy of the masses themselves, and that the masses were actually forced to adopt it from sheer necessity because of the sabotage practised by the capitalists.

Towards the end of May, 1918, the first national congress of local Economic Councils took place, and, after a thorough discussion of the problem, alopted a resolution stating:

pletion of the work of nationalisation is indispensable. It is necessary to pass from the nationalisation of individual concerns to the nationalisation of entire branches of industry, and in the first place, of the metallurgical machine consignation, chemical, naphtha and textile industries."

A decree dated June 28th, 1918, provides for the nationalisation of the entire mining industry (including gold mining, in which, it may be incidentally observed, British capitalists are heavily interested), also of all the largest concerns in all other industries. By way of gratuitous lease, as it were, it leaves the concerns in the hands of their former owners and directors until further notice.

Numerous measures for raising the productive capacity of lebour, and for the installation everywhere of competent administrative and controlling machinery have been carried out by the Supreme Economic Council and its local organs. Unfortunately, all the chief sources of fuel and raw material have been entirely cut off since last summer by the action of the Allies and their reactionary protegys in Siberia and the South.

the February "Nineteenth Century," which has recently been quoted by the "Star" and "Mail" It contains what purport to be extracts from a book of Lenin's speeches which we have not seen in any publisher's list. It also contains word for word a number of extracts from the Maritzburg Magistrate's judgment, delivered only the other day, in re Jones and Greene! Most intelligent anticipation!

The Butcher's and General Dealer's Business carried on at Stand 1467, Primrose Township by INTERNATIONAL CASH BUTCH-ERY (Elias Prag) has been joined by SOIO-MON-SCHRODER as partner of the said ELIAS PRAG, as from 21st May, 1919.

WANTED.—By self, from July 1st, small house, preferably furnished.—Reply sharp, S. P. Funting, phone 693, Box 1915, Johannesburg.

Capitalist Soldarity.

The following manifesto of the Allies, when about to intervene in South Russia, is interesting, especially since their withdrawal from those coasts:—

"We hereby inform the inhabitants of Odessa and neighbourhood that we have arrived on the territory of Russia with the object of restoring order and freeing the country from the Bolchevik usurpers, for which reason the reports spread by the Bolshevik provocators that the Allied troops have come to South Russia in order to drive out the Germans are absolutely false. Both the Germans and ourselves have come here not as conquerors but as champions of right. Hence their objects and ours are identical."

Likewise Churchill says: "A way of atonement is open to Germany. By combating Bolshevism, by being the bulwark against it, Germany may make the first step towards ultimate union with the civilised world." The "Christan Science Monitor" says that the Entente has permitted the Granth Capitalist Covernment to send troops into the neutral zone around Cologne and in the Rhine region for the purpose of suppressing the coal miners' strikes in the Ruhr coal field. To-day, in the Baltic Provinces, the Angle-German Alliance is openly avowed.

In my judgment, the very best agency through which to function to meet all future emergencies is that of Works. Committees. Sensible action here will soon throw the trade unions on to the right track; and the chief point, never to be overlooked, is that wo must refuse to have as an industrial objective the capturing of the world's markets, and aim straight at production for use and not for profit.—Tom Mann.

According to the "Rabekvitcheski Vesnik," the organ of the Minority Socialists of Bulgaria, there have been grave disturbances in Roumania since November. In the towns the workers, exasperated by the high cost of living and by the scarcity of food (Bucharest has sometimes been literally without bread for a few days), have inaugurated vast strikes. In the country the landless peasantry demand land and drastic agrarian reforms. The Rumanian Socialist Party has organised huga mass meetings demanding the establishment of a Socialist Republic.

The French League for the Rights of Man has made known and protested against the following facts: Russian officers, sent to the Eastern front to fight against the Bulgarians, have been forced, since the armistice, to join the anti-Bolshevist forces under General Denikin. They protested against this in a letter to General Franchet d'Esperey. But they were simply taken by force, those who refused being arrested and thrown into prison. In the same way Ukrainian officers have also been constrained to join Denikin's forces.

The Paris of Violence

President Vilser, in introducing the draft Covenant of the Conference, said:

"Armed force is in a background of this programm... moral force of the world will no difficult the physical force of the world shall....

When British Labour says, not that, but: "If moral force will not suffice, passive resistance—down tools—chall." Mr. Lloyd George blusters, "No Prussianism in industry!" and brings out a Defence of the Realm Act regulation to imprison strikers. When Russian Socialist workers say just what Wilson has said, even George Lansbury, who says we must all back up Wilson, is horrified at the doings of the Bolsheviks, and dubs them "undemocratic"—the most terrible epithet to apply to them in these pseudo democratic days!

Wilson further said of the League:
"It is a vehicle of power, but a vehicle in which power may be varied at the discretion of those who exercise it."

Such a tenure of power is in conflict with every principle of democratic government. The elementary essential of democratic government is that power can only be varied by those who confer it.— "The Workers' Dread-

nought.".

League Notes.

charged with the management of this fund have books of Is. stamps which can be obtained at the Office. It is considered necessary that the League should own its own printing plant and money is urgently needed for the purpose. The stamps constitute a convenient method of raising the funds but at the same time any sympathiser who is willing to donate larger amounts or supply money on loan is invited to communicate with the secretary at the Office of the League when he will be supplied with all necessary information.

Comrades are urged to take parcels of the "International" C.O.D. to sell at any convenient place and time. Having temporarily stopped our open air public meetings it is all the more essential that the literature should be distributed and the workers reached by that means. There are a number of copies of "Socialism Made Easy" by James Connolly in stock, price 7d. post free. Send your orders.

Will the comrade who received the Socialist Song Books from the Bandmaster on May. Day kindly return them to the head-office as soon as possible, as we are badly needing them and no more can be obtained for a considerable time.

FREE SPEECH DEFENCE FUND.

Already acknowledged: £30 16s; 9d.: M.B.M., 10s; J.M.L., 5s.; B.G., 5s.; S.T., 5s.; I.G., 5s.; S.D.P. (Capetown), 100s.; R.R.R., 100s.; B.L., 30s.; C.H., 4s. List 75; T.G., 5s.; J.D., 5s.; S.R., 2s. 6d.; R.S., 10s.; L.F., 2s. 6d.; S.W., 2s. 6d.; A.L., 10s.; M.P., 2s. 6d.; H.K., 2s. 6d.; B.S., 2s. 6d.; A.S., 1s.; L.M., 5s.; D.S., 2s. 6d.; A., 2s. 6d.; R.S., 1s.; M.G., 5s.; M.D., 2s. 6d.; S.G., 2s., 6d.; M.G., 5s.; J.H., 10s.; H. v. R., 5s.; J.P.C., 5s.; J.H., 10s.; H. v. R., 5s.; J.P.C., 5s.; J.J., 5s.; B.G., 5s.; A.G., 5s.; A.G.N., 5s.; S.C., 5s.

JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

The Branch monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3rd June, in the Palmerston Hall at 8 p.m. All comrades are urged to attend.

Study Class every Friday evening in Palmerston Hall, at 8 p.m.

JEWISH-SPEAKING BRANCH.

The Branch will meet in the Palmersten Hall on Sunday, June 1st, at 10 a.m. sharp. Business: Election of officers.

PRETORIA BRANCH.

The Branch new meets on the first and third Monday in each month in the Federation Hall, at 8 p.m. The first Monday is a business meeting, and the third educational.

The lecture arranged for this Sunday, June 1st, has been unavoidably postponed.

Copies of the Administration and Distribution Accounts in the Estate of the late JOHN WILLIAM GAMBLE and surviving spouse MARTHA GAMBLE (born REINECKE) 36722/221 will be open for inspection for 21 days from the date hereof at the Office of the Master of the Supreme Court, Pretoria, and of the Magistrate, Johannesburg. Should ne objection be lodged with the Master during the period of inspection the executrix will preced to make payments in accordance therewith.—S. P. BUNTING, 104, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, Attorney for Executrix.

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

To ensure receipt of paper 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.

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