INTERNATIONAL

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

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Helot Races.

Parliament has passed a bill restricting Indian trading in South Africa, and a prolonged South African Indian Congress has been held this week in Johannesburg to discuss means of resistance. At the same time Indian feeling here is aroused in sympathy with the outery against post-war tyranny in India itself, and with the movement for Swaraj, or Home Rule.

"Civis Romanus."

Indians, they say, are "British Citizens" and are made helots; they "loyally serve the Empire" and their reward is degradation, especially after one of the Empire's victorious wars. Under the Transvaal Republic their welfare and interest were zealously protected by the British resident, who had to work up. a casus belli against Kruger: but the British conquest only resulted in replacing their whips by scorpions. In the "Great War," half a million Indians died "to give freedom to the world," but as for themselves only oppression is their portion; they are in no sense to be ranked among the Comrades of the Great War; their meed is the Rowlatt Acts and bombs in India, and in South Africa laws to curb "the Asiatic danger to the white community." As their President's address put it; "The day of peace seems the calculated day for the resumption of hostilities by our enemy-fellow-British subjects. The peace we enjoyed while the Great War raged and the issue was doubtful was seemingly but a respite, a tactical restraint prompted by considerations of expediency. While the war lasted we were of some value. . Now we have served our turn, we are to be relegated to the old position, save that it is to be made somewhat worse": as in fact their former political and civil equality with Europeans had in the past been step by step revoked. And so the Congress still cheered the British Flag, but chiefly in the fond hope of thus disarming such persecution as might use their "disloyalty" as a pretext.

"Sickening Uniformity."

Coincidently, we find in this week's native paper, "Abantu Batho," an article headed, "Are we the King's subjects?" voicing the same complaint. "Amongst the objects of the Boer War was the freedom of natives under Dutch tyranny; and yet we find that in the great settlements of 1906 and 1909 the rights of the native population were not only igpored, but were turned upside down with the King's consent, and that has been the policy ever since. Deputations that have been sent to the King from time to time for the redress of the constitutional grievances have been ignored with the usual hypocritical remark that the King is the protector of all his subjects. His Majesty did not even hesitate to declare before our countrymen in France that they and ourselves were his subjects equally with others!\ But it is nonsense for any King to speak like that at the time of fighting and then ignore the same people in time of peace. . . Let him tell us we are no longer his subjects and we will know."

A Labouring Nation.

Let us try to place these grievances in their proper niche.

Modern Imperialist Capitalism is based on the exploitation of cheap and mostly coloured labour, which produces or fetches raw material, hews wood, draws water, etc., for the magnate class of the world, at the same time affording a market for goods manufactured or finished in the North. It is convenient to treat such a coloured race as all of one class, i.e., a working class: the niggers, the coolies, and so on, b---y or not at discretion. Those who rise above their fellow cerlies must be lifted out high and dry to the status of princes, etc., or tolerated as merchants, or at any rate kept in tow as cringing parasites of the ruling class. But in the case of the next lower grade, the middle class, this is unnecessary; it is easier to let them, or make them, share the typical fate of middle classes and small traders in every country, that is, to be driven down into the proletarian compound. As races, Indians and Kaffirs are to be labour races. Let the exceptions be made as few as possible. Among the labouring masses themselves Imperialism exploits national divisions, sets Gentiles against Jews. (especially Bolsheviks) and white against coloured labour, on racial lines, giving the former the better conditions and flattering it with its superiority to the blacks, browns and vellows. As for these latter, it is not for the likes of them to presume on their services or their British citizenship. As labourers the Indians were introduced to Natal which they, made a Garden Colony: labourers let them for ever remain.

Labour as Liberator.

The attack on the Indian traders then is simply designed to assist in conserving Indians as a labour or helot race. It is part of the general clearing up which is dividing the world more and more into two main camps or classes, exploiters and exploited, capitalists and wage workers, a question of class not of race. Hence as traders the Indians cannot put up a successful fight. Their future is with the working class movement only. Exploitation is the key to oppression, and only the exploited can end it. It is to make profit out of their labour that the ruling "race"—really the ruling class—holds them down, by force or fraud. That is the essence of the profit system of society; and only the bursting up of that system will enable them to rise en masse. "There can be no national emancipation without social emancipation for those toiling millions of Africa and of India." To ask the Imperialist Governments to grant that would be to ask them to commit suicide. Only a socialist society can free the labourer, whatever his race. And only by joining the Labour movement and forming Labour Upions can you help to bring about a Socialist Society. The trader who came to South Africa to live on the labourer must after all look to the labourer for salvao tion, though of another kind than he expected. As. "Ivon" says in a recent Indian paper, for a race consisting overwhelmingly of proletarians, like the Indians or natives. "Home Rule" would mean proletarian dictatorship.

Socialism Brings Swaraj.

And in fact it is the Socialist Republic of Russia, and it alone, that has granted "self determination" to subject races as the outcome of this war. Its first act in November, 1918, was to issue a decree renouncing all sovereignty over all the subject races in the former Russian Empire, and abolishing all privileges enabling Russians to establish themselves as a ruling caste or colony and turn the logal population into their helots.

Recently, to advances from the Amir of Afghanistan, the Russian Government replied:

"The Soviet Government, from the first day they received power, have heralded to the whole world their desire, not merely to recognise the right of self-determination of

all peoples both great and small, but to reat der assistance to those peoples who are struggling for their independence and for the right to settle their own internal life in accordance with their own desires without permitting the interference of the great foreign Imperialist Governments.

"The Soviet has restored all that was taken away by the Russian Tsars and has afforded autonomy to all Mussulman peoples. To those who desired to remain voluntarily in the Russian Socialist Federative Republic of Soviets, the Soviet has afforded material and military

In Russia, too, traders have become workers-for the community of workers. Indians should find it no less natural than Russians have done to embrace Communism. But to do so they must forswear both their racialist and their imperialist appeals.

Revolution and Counter-R volution.

Socialist faith, as well as experience or arifully cooked capitalist "news," enables us to bear the reports about Hungary with fortig tude. The attack on the Sovie: Government there has been conducted with a grosser want of excuse, a more brutal frankness, than that against Russia. Atrocities were only trump ed up once or twice, a few days before this military attack: talk of hardships under that - Government was not thought necessary, and indeed would not have been believed in view of the clear reports to the contrary which had less difficulty in getting through the cordon than reports from Russia had done; while even Smuts practically admitted that the hardships he saw were the direct rerult of the Allied blockade and nothing else. The essence of the Allied, i.e., capitalist, attack (for it was probably at least tacitly approved by the Ehert Government also) appeared in the first act, as reported, of the new "government" - the restoration of * PRIVATE PROPERTY. "The property question" says the Communist Manifesto "is the fundamental question of the movement". and it is, now avowedly, in the interests of capitalist property, of landowners and shareholders, and of them only, that these imperialist rascals have invaded Hungary. The only bit of their habitual camouflage to which they have still thought it worth while to resort in order to disarm Trade Union opposition at home is, if we may believe the slimy unnaturally-drawn cables, the designation of the Government as a "Labour" Government. alleged to be supported by the Trade Unions, with a printer as Premier. We know that class of Labour Leader by this time, and their role as tools of Capital against Labour: and the world of labour in general is getting to know them too. "Exit the Hungarian Soviet" say the headlines: but the dramatis persona who makes an exit from the stage may well reappear in the next act or scene or even in the same scene: as in fact Soviets have been restored in Siheria and other parts of the Russian Soviet domain immediately the oppressor's troops have departed from their coasts, just as immediately as they would have us believe universal looting (probably engineered), follows a police strike. From all over the world comes the roar of the tempest, the anger of the revolutionary working class which will only be kindled afresh both by this latest case of Allied militarism inmasked. and by the obvious lie of "withdrawing from Russia" by sending General Rawlinson and 500 officers to the front. Nor will the threat now published of an upprecedented pogrom once the Russian Soviet power is broken pass unnoticed. The "Mail" says we can take Socialism or leave it. Well, we are going to take it.

The French at Odessa.

The revolt of the French Black Sea fleet was discussed in the French chamber.

Eernest Lafont told how during the French occupation in Odessa, men arrested and marched through the streets would be ordered by the escort to advance a few steps, whereupon they would be shot in the open. street, and the next day there would be a communication that the victim had been "shot while attempting to escape." (Like Liebknecht.) Lafont mentioned several examples of whole regiments who had refused; point blank to fight against the Bolsheviks.

Goude pointed out that in order to persuado the sailors to fight, a pamphlet was distributed to them entitled, "The Tyranny of the Bolsheviks." It consisted chiefly of extracts from Pichon's speeches, but "when the sailors saw these terrible Bolsheviks in Odessa, they formed an opinion very much at variance with that of the minister." "Our sailors," said Goude, "found themselves well received by all. They knew ... that many times the enemy might have hurfed them into the sea at Sebastopol, but the Bolsheviks did nothing of the sort-all they wanted was that their territory should he evacuated-they even helped us to evacuate... The French soldiers and sailors at Sebastopol saw posters on the walls that any Russian found molesting a French soldier would be condemned to death. When these same soldiers heard that the "Jean Bart" had attacked the inoffensive population without a cause . . . they were disgusted. When further they read in bourgeois journals that only 'volunteers' were taking part in the war against Russia, their indignation knew no hounds. 'It is false,' they exclaimed . . . we have had enough of this."

The kevolt of the sailors commenced on April 19th on board the "France" with the

singing of the "International."

"The manifestations of soldiers and sailors," Goude proceeded, "were unanimous and orderly, and the only violence committed was by an ensign of a vessel who, observing that the French soldiers fraternised with the Russian civil population, caused a machine gun to be turned on a group of men, and women."

Puerile Propaganda.

When the Bolsheviks circulate propaganda among their enemies it is "sinister" and "insidious." But of course their enemies may do it without blame, only they have to do it, both on the Black and the White Sea, first and foremost among their own troops; and in view of their admitted failure even there; it would be interesting to learn what success among Soviet thoops would be attained by such slangy balderdash as this "proclamation" issued by General Ironside at Archangel to the British and "Russian" troops in that district, to which the leaflet published in the "International" of 21st February last was in fact the Soviet Government's reply:---

"There seems to be among the troops a very indistinct idea of what we are fighting for here in North Russia.

"This can be explained in a few words. We are up against Bolshevism, which means an-

archy pure and simple.

"Anyone of you can understand that no State can possibly exist when its own internal affairs, such as labour, railways, relations with Foreign Powers, etc., are so disorganised as to make life impossible for every-

"Look at Russia at the present moment. The power is in the hands of a few men, mostly Jews, who have succeeded in bringing the country to such a state that order is nonexistent, the posts and railways do not run properly, every man who wants something that somebody else has got just kills his opponent, only to be killed himself when the next man comes along. Human life is not safe; you can buy justice at so much for each object. Prices of necessities have so risen that nothing is procurable. In fact, the man with a gun is 'cock of the walk,' provided that he does not meet another man who is a hetter shot.

The Bolsheviks are adventurers who are simply exploiting Russia for their own ends, and Russia is lying helpless in their hands.

"But we are not here to conquer Russia, and none of us want to stay here. . . When order is restored here we shall clear out, but only when we have attained our object, and that is the restoration of Russia"—(i.e., of course, making it safe for autocracy.)

But look at this specimen of the leaflets which the British were spreading amongst the German soldiers during the war. A veritable boomerang, this, and a dirty one too:-

"What are you fighting for, Michael?". "You are fighting for the glory of Hindenburg, for the enrichment of Krupps. You are

fighting for the Kaiser and the Junkers and leaders of militarism who caused this war in order to save themselves from the anger

of the people.

"The Junkers sit at home with their jewellry-bedecked wives and mistresses, their coffers, swelling with increased riches. For this you and your comrades pay with your lives. There are no swelling coffers for your wives and children. They must sit at home working and starving, like you, the victims of the greed of your ruling classes, at whose piping you must dance the dance of death.

"Your Kaiser has adorned the lordly Hindenburg wih gold braid and iron crosses. What has the Kaiser dealt out to you? Destruction, suffering, poverty, starvation for your wives and children; misery, sickness, and to-morrow a grave for you. All this suffering, you say, is for the Fatherland, and as a brave patriot you set gladly out to

die in its defence.

"What, however, does your Fatherland consist of? Is it the Kaiser with his fine talk? Is it the Crown Prince with his merry commanions, who, before Verdun, sacrificed 600,000 men? Is it Hindenburg, who, with Ludendorf, both decked out with orders, sit many kilometres behind you making plans to furnish still more cannon-fodder for the English? Is it Frau Bertha Krupp, who, during the war, has been piling up millions upon mil-Plions of marks for herself? Is it the Prussian Junkers, who, over your dead bodies, are shrieking for annexations? No, the Fatherland consists of none of these. You are the Fatherland, Michael, you and your sisters, your wives, parents and children. You, the common people, you are Germany. And yet it is you and your comrades who are driven like slaves into the hell of the English artillery fire, driven at the command of your unfeeling slave-drivers. When your comrades at home fight against the war-maker, they are shot down with machine guns. After the war, if you should try to strike a blow for your own just rights, machine guns will be turned against you, for your present fight is only to increase the power of your lords over you. Do you, perchance, believe that vour lordly masters hate the war as you hate it? Self-evidently not. They love war, for it brings them promotion, honours, power and gain. The longer the war lasts, the longer are they able to postpone the revolu-

Pot and Kettle!

say middle-There is no class struggle, "Syren," class reformers. The organ of the Shipowners' Federation which is trying to reduce wages, says: "The claim for a 5s. per week decrease is more than a set-off to the claim for a 15s. per week increase. It is an indication that the inevitable struggle is about to begin, and that a stand is to be made by the employers for lower labour costs."

The London "Daily Chronicle" of 23rd April last, in the course of a report of an interview with Lenin, attributes to him the deliberate policy of "choking the arteries of exchange with paper circulation": "to flood the country with notes of a high face value without financial guarantees of any sort. . . Soon even the simplest peasant will realise that it is only a scrap of paper. . and the great illusion of the value and power of money, on which the capitalist state is based, will have been definitely destroyed."

Some of our Allies

Mannerheim dare not land anywhere in Scandinavia. There they know what he is. In Scandinavia they are aware (though it is not known here) that 90,000 Reds surrendered to the Whites in Finland; that between June 4th and September 14th, 1918, 20,000 were murdered, including women, in batches to the number of 2,000, by machine-gun are. The others were put into camps, where 11,000. died of starvation, their friends and relatives not being allowed to send them any food. Yet this Mannerheim is our ally. (See the "International" of 6th December last.-Ed.)

And has the Foreign Office been informed from the Caucasus by an august British officer that, when visiting Denikin's headquarters, he found projecting above the ground the heads of thirty men who had been buried alive? Another of our allies, adding to the laurels of Mons, Epres, and the Somme! Our soldiers. fresh from putting an end to German abominations, must be proud of their new associates in civilisation's cause. - "The Nation," June 14th, 1919.

"One gets sick of all these horrors; but the worst is this, that it is England, Scotland, that is doing the butchery. It would not matter so much if it were Austria under Metternich. When Metternich's Marshal Haynau came to England fresh from the; flogging of women in Hungary, Menx's draymen-took him and flogged him at the bottom of Tottenham Court Road; but General Mannerheim came from the corpses of the 200 women at Lahti, and was received at Buokingham Palace. That is what has happened to Britain. If there are any men left let

them realise the infamy of it. "Then there is General Denikin. A leading White politician—that is from the "New Statesman"—puts the number of workmen executed when Denikin occupied Rostov at 23,000. It is safe to say that if the Whites capture a Red town there will be a hundred executions for every one which occurs if a White town is captured by the Reds. At Jekaterinoslav Denikin ordered every Red Russian found in possession of Red literature to be shot forthwith. At Batarsk, in the Don district, every man with a son in the Red Guard was killed. In one place every tenth workman was shot as an example to the rest. The White leaders regard the literal decimation of the working classes as an absolutely necessary preliminary to the establishment of any form of Government. in Russia."---Col. Wedgewood, M.P.

The Lena Goldfields have been captured by the Bolsheviks. The Lena Goldfields, Inmited, is British with a capital of £1,400,000.

Perhaps the directors and shareholders will now go out to fight for the recovery of their property.

But perhaps they won't.

It is cheaper and safer to get working-class volunteers for Koltchak's army. Churchill could give them atrocity stories and ammunition and the British nation can pay the bill. -"Forward."

The 'Peace' in Australia.

The jingoes in Australia, in common with those of other parts of the British Empire, arranged great demonstrations to take place

at the official signing of peace.

As part of the scheme of getting wholehearted support, Australian Labour was asked to participate. In every known case to date. Labour in Australia throughout all the States refused. The following motion, recently carried by the Labour Council of New South Wales, typifies the attitude of Labour on this matter:

"We refuse to take any part whatever in Victory celebrations. . . Apart from the waste of money, we refuse to assist in celebrating something which entailed the slaughter of fifteen million lives, which were secrificed on the altars of capitalistic greed and avarice."

Similar motions were passed by the various Labour organisations, both industrial and political, throughout Anstralia.

The hundred and one schemes to reconstruct society, coming from all sections, show that it is generally accepted that the present form of society is no by any means the paradise the apologists would have us believe. Even Chameleon Celluloid George admits it when making the promise to make England a country fit for heroes to live in.

These ill-digested schemes, many of them put forward by persons with larger hearts than brain capacity, are worthless and reveal an utter ignorance of the structure of society; lop-sided views, that look at the problem in a disjointed fashion without getting to bed-rock—the material basis to which all manifestations of social life can be traced. An understanding of the material basis is the key to the solution of the problems that awaif adjusting, and all these schemes to solve the problem that ignore the material basis are

but so much-wasted mental and physical

energy.

Most of these schemes are premised by the word if. If, we are told, we adopted these schemes, they would eliminate all the ills the flesh is heir to. If, say these schemers, all members of society were employed, there would be no poverty. If we spent less on charity and invested more capital in useful productive work, the out of works would be absorbed. If we had State control, if we had more of the milk of human kindness, if we had larger hearts, if we had a new social conscience, if we had a larger spiritual outlook, if we had a new soul in humanity, if we had a new human nature, if we had the nightmare—hang it, no, I mean it is enough to give one the nightmare thinking of these panaceas put forward by emotional surface skimmers, and thinking out the means by which they could be applied. They are all served up for you without any method by which they are to be applied. There you are, take your choice, and be hanged to you if you don't make a new heaven upon earth.

These schemes are side-tracking movements, put forward many of them in good faith by well meaning individuals, but none the less dangerous to the working class. The mass of workers have not as yet freed themselves from the mental kinks imposed upon them by an environment controlled by those in possession of the economic forces. Such an environment creates a servile respect for and gives value to the many absurdities put forward by superficial would-be saviours of society, as well as to schemes designedly put forward by the paid intellectual hirelings of

the capitalist class.

Tho capitalist class have excellent reasons for the maintenance of the present system. They have always ready tools to their hand to give a false interpretation to history and to everything else the truth of which would show the masses the stranglehold the capitalist class have upon the workers by the possession of the land and the productive tools. Their economists by subtle methods have alwavs denied the wage slavery of the system. Their tactics have always been to obscure the fact that the workers in any society based upon class are the slaves of that section which holds the material objects, the tools of production. In such a form of society, the class dispossessed of these tools can only work, and therefore live, upon sufferance.

A recognition of the antagonisms created by such class ownership, antagonisms amounting to veiled civil war within all national boundaries, knocks the bottom out of the emotional schemes to reconstruct society on a more equitable basis. To apply, if it were possible, the panaceas put forward to reform society might perhaps give assurance of life to a limited number of individuals, but could not bring that assurance to every unit in society. That assurance can only come by changing the economic basis of society from the present individual ownership to social ownership.

The authors of these ill-digested and unrealisable plans of social reform are completely adrift owing to their ignorance of social science. They are so blind they cannot see that our present phase of civilisation has exhausted itself. With an outward seeming of strength it is but an empty husk. So warped are these individuals by the idea of reform that they cannot read the significance of a workers' republic being established in Russia and Hungary, nor yet the lesson of Germany and its fugitive Kaiser. These to them are but episodes without any permanence, which will not be repeated in the so-called more democratic countries.

The changing of the economic basis to social ownership will realise many of the aspirations of these dreamers. To expect to realise them under our present system of greed and grab is folly, and brands the proposers of them as either ignorant of social science or deliberate crooks in the pay of those in society whose interest it is to prolong the system.

J.M.G.

Ware Nationalists!

From Liberty Hall, Dublin, the news arrives of a strike at Boyle, in which the following paragraph occurs: "The strike has been the excuse for savage baton charges and raids upon dwelling houses at all hours. Ninetysix men were originally involved, but only 70 remain on strike. Several of the employers are extreme Sinn Feiners who refuse to recognise British law but gladly avail themselves of the aid of the British Military and Police to crush the strikers."

A recent cable conveyed the information at that the first British steamer since the outbreak of war arrived at Hamburg on May 5, and plenty more have followed.

But did not Havelock Wilson, the famous leader of the Scamen's Union in England, give his word that the sailors of the world would refuse to enter or man vessels for Germany for 93 years after the war?

Did he not definitely declare that no sailor would ever board a "Hun" vessel or any vessel that was bound for "Hunland"?

In recent cables the phrases "Communist Imperialism" and "Socialist Racialism" occur. They are utter contradictions and impossibilities, like Hughes' "combat against both Bolshevism and profiteering."

The fight for business, like the fight for work, is a product of capitalism. Under Socialism both trade rivalry and race oppression must disappear.

The following statistics of "Capitalist Imperialism in Ireland" speak eloquently, and it is estimated that the 1919 figures will "improve" on those of 1918 as emphatically as the latter do on those of 1917. The figures deal with political matters or offences only.

Raids 11 260
Baton and Bayonet Charges 18 81
Proclamations and meetings,
etc., suppressed General Numerous
Deportations 24 91
Papers suppressed 3 12
Courts Martial 36 62
Sentences 269 973
Murders 7 6

The Russian Soviet Representative in the U.S.A., Martens, and his committee published the first issue of a magazine, "Soviet Russia," giving the truth about Soviet affairs: 100,000 copies were printed of the first issue. As a result the police raided Marten's office and arrested him with many other comrades.

The other day we noted how the British White Army in North Russia consisted of officers turned rankers to fight for their (supposed) class. Their French and Russian counterparts do things conversely. M. de Kerguezec, commissioned by the French Government to report on the French troops in the Black Sea area, went to Sebastopol and Odessa, where he found with the French troops the volunteers of the Russian army. "Out of about 1,000 men there are hundreds of colonels and dozens of generals," he reported: "indeed, out of 2,000 men there are 1,900 officers."

Action, not Argumentation

In the course of a letter to the "Socialist," J. T. Murphy, of the Shop Stewards' move-

ment in England, writes:

"Lenin and his comrades have many times repeated that Industrial Unionism is the basic state of the Industrial Commonwealth." True, and I agree. But neither Lenin nor his comrades waited for industrial unionism as a means to achieve social revolution. Industrial unionism is now developing in Russia, but is by no means complete. Lenin and his comrades used every means at their disposal—Trades Unions, political parties, and so forth—applied what ideas of industrial unionism they could to every situation, but movements towards revolution were of more importance to them than the perfection even of the weapons they had to use.

If our comrade thinks he can do better service to the working class movement by launching out with an I.W.W. branch—well, away, and good luck to him. But I warn him and others that in so far as they confine themselves to arguments about the kind of organisation, the futility of Trades Unionism, and so forth, they are wasting valuable.

time and energy.

The obvious tactics, I think, are clear. Be prepared to improvise all kinds of organisations; it may be of Trade Union bodies and political bodies, and so on, which will produce mass action and working class pressure on the governing bodies. The revolutionary crisis itself will compel the further application of industrial unionist ideas in order to solve the problems of the crisis.

The Cash "Incentive."

The British Government has awarded £50 to Lady Turner, in view of the services of her late husband, Sir Geo. Turner, in investigating rinderpest and in consideration of his death through contracting leprosy in the Public Service. This (says the "S.A. Review") must be the "incentive to private effort" which the magnate organs speak so much of. It is only the hope of attaining riches, they tell us, which will lead human beings to do anything useful. If the widow of an inventor who saved life gets £50, what sum would be doled out to the widow of a man who invented fresh means of killing, such as a new gun or a new form of poison gas?

(Well, Haig and Beatty for a start get £100,000 each, and various other death-dealers are doled out in proportion, as per this

week's cables.--- Ed.)

Free' Labour.

The latest report of the Free Labour Association of Britain states that it has "handled Labour troubles in all phases without gloves; sent non-mion men to fill places of strikers; protected willing workers; guarded property during strikes; defeated 800 'senseless' strikes (what does the Free Labour Association call a 'sensible' strike?); and registered one million workmen." All of which, except the last item, we can readily believe. Further, it demands that the Labour Exchanges be abolished, and that the powers of the Defence of the Realm Act be invoked to crush the Triple Alliance out of existence, because it is "a monstrous pervsion of the Combination Laws." It seems necessary to tell the Free Labour-Association that the crushing of the Triple Alliance by "Dora" would be a still more monstrous revival of the spirit of the Combination Laws, and to ask what the crushing of the Triple Alliance can possibly have to do with free labour.—Labour News Service.

The "Cape Times" says General Smuts "sees Russia and Hungary in the grip of political doctrines which involve a return to the social and personal ethics of the jungle." An unfortunate word to use, jungle, in this connection, for it was the very word used by the Bishop of Pretoria in describing our social and personal ethics. He said that we were in a camouflaged jungle.—"S.A. Review."

History Repeats liself:

Familiar Experiences in Sydney.

Democratic League V of New The Social South Wales (for the propagation of Revolutionary Socialism and Industrial Unionism), 151a, Castlereagh Street, Sydney, writes to the I.S.L. as follows:

Enclosed please find copy of manifesto issued by us this year. At the time when it was issued the capitalist press was conducting a great campaign of slander and vilification against the Bolsheviks. Labour Parliamentarians, Trades Union leaders and the Labour Press were defending the Bolsheviks in an apologetic manner. It was considered by the S.D.L. that the time was ripe for them to stand out and announce that their objective was identical with the Bolsheviks', without any apologies, and that this was the only logical way of supporting the Bolshevik movement; consequently the manifesto was sissued. The workers were not frightened by it as many seemed to fear would be the case. Our hall was packed to the doors every Sun-, day night; huge crowds gathered at our outdoor meetings: large quantities of literature were disposed of.

It was then that the authorities evidently became afraid of the propaganda that we were doing. Our premises were raided: literature, membership books, minute books, pictures, etc., were scized. This would have had very little effect upon the propaganda, as in a few days we should have got other supplies, but at the same time the influenza... plague visited us , and restrictions were imposed by the Government which absolutely prohibited public gatherings both indoor and outdoor. This was a serious blow. All our propaganda was nipped in the bud. Then our landlord ordered us to quit the premises we had occupied for two years. Difficulties were then met with in finding new headquarters, as a general hoycott seemed to have been set up against the League; but at last a new home has been found, the restrictions have been removed, and we are now looking. for more halls to run our meetings—one hall is not large enough for us, as we are uncomfortably packed every meeting night and have to turn hundreds away.

Comrade Vance Marshall, the General Secretary of the League, was: recently arrested on a charge of inciting to riot, with a further charge of being present when a riot took place. On the first count he is liable to tifteen years. The case arose out of the attempts made to rescue Paul Freeman from deportation, a case which you will already be familiar with per medium of exchanges, and which it will be unnecessary for me to go further into. Comrade Marshall was sentonced to four months' imprisonment in October, 1917, for making a speech likely to cause disaffection to His Majesty. On his release he wrote a book, "Jail from Within." This book is a great indictment of the police and gaol system of New South Wales, and has had a big circulation. A few weeks after the publication of this book and only two months after his release from gaol, he was again ar rested and sentenced to six months' on a charge of making speeches likely to prejudice recruiting.

Since his release he has been continuing his attacks upon the gaol and police system, and in view of this, and of the fact that other speakers made far more inflammatory speeches during the Freeman case, it looks is if the whole matter is a frame-up. However, it is going to be a big case, and they will not gag him too easily.

Although the Social Democratic League has only been in existence since May, 1917, it holds the record, for this country, for proseentions under the War Precautions Act. Nine cases have been conducted by the Crown against speakers of the League for prejudicing recruiting, causing disaffection to His Majesty, etc.

Some time ago I received a communication from you referring to the reconstruction of the International. We anticipate that you will have little to do with the old International, which bourgeois Socialists seem to be trying to bring back to life again, but will affiliate with the Moscow International.

We follow as closely as we can the movement in South Africa, through the columns of the "International," and note the great fight you and your comrades are putting up in the only war worth fighting.

With fraternal greetings from the members of the S.D.L. to the members of the I.S.L.--

Yours for the Revolution, H. CHARLESWORTH,

Organiser. P.S.—Referring to the raid, some of our literature and pictures were returned within a fortnight, others they kept two months. Lenin's photo was retained two months and when returned was minus some red ribbon we had round it, which the police informed uthey had orders to retain. They still have our minute book and some pamphlets and correspondence.

(Paul Freeman was twice deported from Australia to America and twice sent back to Australia. The latest news we have is that after a formidable attempt to rescue him from his ship had been defeated by troops, the Government allowed him out under surveillance "pending inquiries as to the reason for the action of the U.S.A. authorities." As for the manifesto, space torbids its publication this week.—Ed.)

League Notes.

FREE SPEECH DEFENCE FUND.

Already acknowledged: £151 10s. 7d. List 514: W.C., 20s; M.B., 5s 6d; H.G., 5s; J.M., 5s; J.H.M., 5s; B.S., 20s; S.P., 5s.

JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

General meeting of members on Tuesday. August 12th, at 8 p.m., at the office, Neppe's Buildings.

- All members are specially requested to turn up as urgent business is to be discussed.

A public meeting will be held on August 27th, at 8 p.m., on the Selborne Hall. Look out for further announcements as to speakers, etc.

The fourth anniversary of the inauguration of the League will be celebrated on September 4th by a Social in the Selborne Hall. The opening of the I.S.L. printing press will also be marked by the same function. Further particulars in subsequent issues.

John Campbell, the veteran Johannesburg Socialist, sailed last month for lingland, where he expects to plunge into a revolutionary atmosphere in accord with his consisten: teachings."

Cape Notes.

The tram strike is still in the melting pot in spite of all efforts by the Mayor, Minister Burton and the press to induce them to return to work in the interest of the "Peace" celebrations.

Peace celebrations will go on all right in the Tramway sheds if nowhere else, for not a. car will move.

A clear indication of our force was shown at a strike or public meeting organised by the Federation of Trades to state their position. Mr. Batty was the first speaker and the Banqueting Hall of the City Hall was packed to the doors. He believed in "an amicable relationship between employer and employed—there were others who took the more revolutionary view" (loud and continued applause)—"and I see they are represented here." (Cheers.) Others who followed talked in a language more suitable to the audience, and our old and respected Tory Trade Unionist. Brother Thompson, at last proclaimed himself. "a Socialist," as chairman, when concluding the proceedings. The large audience vigorously cheered him and passed an amendment, moved by a Socialist in the audience, declaring our support of the immediate application of the Tramway Workers' demands.

W.H.H.

Socialists who do not see that the offensive against Russia is an offensive against Social Democracy (even if we deny that Bolshevism either in theory or practice should be defended by Socialists) see nothing at all.—Ramsay Macdonald in "Forward."

Durba i Notes.

Last Sunday, under the handbill captions of "Peace Celebrations—and After," "Solidarity the need of the Workers," and "Out o the World's Unrest arises the Need for Unity of Purpose. Workers! You along can inaugurate the New World. Close your Ranks!' a mass meeting of workers was held at the Town Gardens under the joint auspices of the Social Democratic Party, the S.A. Labour Party, and the organised workers of Durban. A. I.. Clark, chairman of the Social Democratic Party and of the N.U.R.A.H.B., was in the chair. H. W. Haynes moved. Arch. Jamieson seconded, and A. Goodenough supported the first resolution, viz.:

"That this mass meeting of workers assembled in the Town Gardens, Durban. August 3, 1919, recognising our mutual interest in peace, join with the workers in other lands in rejoicing at the termination of the Great War, and welcomes with them the signing of peace as the last act in that great calamity which befell the human race is

August, 1914.

"Nevertheless, realising that conflicting economic interests still exist between classes and nations, which will assuredly become the source of future strife, we resolve to accept the responsibility, as a working class, to persistently strive for the removal of those conflicting economic interests, thus not only making permanent peace possible, but ensuring it becoming a reality. This resolution to be communicated to the workers of other countries."

J. Dickens moved, F. Nettleton seconded and H. Norrie supported the second resolu-

tion:---

"This meeting of workers resolves that in order to raise and maintain a higher standard of social comfort for the working class. in South Africa---no effort should be spared by the organised workers of Durhan that would tend to bring about a greater solidarity within their ranks, so that they may strive unitedly and persistently along with other work. ing class organisations in South Africa for their mutual advantage."

The speeches were mostly insurgent cather than conformist. The I.S.L. improved the occasion by distributing a catchy leastet by "Ivon." hased on the first article, by D.I.J., in lasi week's "International," and also Lenin's "appeal to Trade Unionists." which quite captured the meeting.

A native "minister" recently wrote to the editor of this paper desiring to join the I.S.L. The other day he was convicted or theft, and not his first conviction either. According to one witness he had represented himself as a detective, and in view of (1) his failure to find a proposer and seconder to vouch for him, (2) the inexplicableness of such a character wanting to join the League, and (3) past experience of C.I.D. "members" of the Industrial Workers of Africa, it would be interesting to know whether he really was one. The enemy is not particular what tools he uses.

The General Dealer's Business carried on by JACOB NEPPE, trading as J. NEPPE & Co., on Stands 40 and 42, Marshallstown, will be transferred to Stands 20 and 29, Marshallstown, from 1st August, 1919. 25-1-8

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

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

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