THE INTERNATIONAL

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

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- Creswell Sounds the Retreat.

"LABOUR PARTY" BUT NOT A "PARTY OF LABOUR."

During the week, Mr. F. H. P. Creswell has addressed himself to the Labour Party's National Council in a letter occupying four columns of the "Rand Daily Mail" (to say nothing of the editorial pats on the back). There is no doubt that the letter is intended to force the pace of the party in the direction towards which Creswell thinks it ought to travel. By the welcome given to it in the Daily Press that direction may be very easily guessed at. It is a direction away from a "party of Labour" towards a "broad-based" amorphous party of the lower middle class, promising all things to all men, this year, next year, sometime, never!

The great war was fought in vain for Colonel Creswell. So far from bringing enlightenment to him it has fossilised him in his grandmotherly notions of middle-class democracy. This is no great concern of ours or of the working class. But it is our business to acquaint the rank and file of the Labour Party whither they are being led by their "Daily-Mail"-blessed leader.

Briefly, the letter may be summarised thus: First, a description of the evils of the present economic system, in language reminiscent of Creswell's more eloquent and more militant days. He sounds the tocsins of reform—tocsins undistinguishable from those which led ten million men to slaughter—allembracing words like Wilson's—leading to love, or wrath consuming quite, according as "platform and other support" may decide.

Then follows a criticism of the orthodox political parties—the Labour Party included—in which he says that the Labour Party "has failed to fill the bill." Why has it failed to fill the bill? Because it is almost as bad as the S.A. Party, the Unionist Party and the Nationalist Party; while these parties are out to safeguard the "pecuniary interest of the landowners," etc., the Labour Party is out to back up the "pecuniary interest of the manual workers." (Note words quoted.)

In so far as Creswell objects to narrowing a party of Labour to certain sections of manual workers he is right. But that is not his complaint. Indeed he mentions the non-voting black worker. But he does not want to spread out in that voteless direction, otherwise we should have seen little of this Creswellian screed in the capitalist press. The thing to go for is a vote-getting political party, with the best vote-getting name and the best vote-getting platform. That is the sum and substance of this clarion call.

That is bad enough! But fancy a "leader of Labour" talking about the "pecuniary interests of the manual workers" in opposition to the pecuniary interest of the propertied classes. He seems to have forgotten what little he once knew: that the opposition is not a merely "pecuniary" one, but the opposition of vested interests of property to the demand of the toilers for life and for liberty. "Pecuniary interest of the manual workers"! There is the escutcheon of the Tory on the hindquarters of a Labour Leader. Let the workers pursue the spectacle "with loud and irreverent laughter."

So seemed is Creswell of the "manual workers" that he warns his party that sole reliance on them will lead to "continual intriguing and more coarse corruption in the

ranks of the party of which we have had recent painful experience."

Therefore he urges his party to scrap its cumbrous platform and decide on six or ten main planks such as "Land values taxation," "Municipal enterprise," "abolition of indentured labour," and so on, all very desirable if combined with the sine qua non of the political dictatorship of the proletariat.

But the means to the end is the acid test, no less than the end itself. We have had enough of "objectives," and the high-sounding slogans of reform. How you propose proceeding to attain them is the test of your sincerity. Creswell discards the proletariat as the power of emancipation. He gives the lie to that central assertion of the Labour movement—that the emancipation of the working class must be the task of the workers themselves. The only place in the world where Creswell's Ten Points are pursued today is in Russia, under the regime of the manual worker whom Creswell, in his incorzigible-blindness, so much despises as a political and moral force. It is only the intellectual stodginess and political stupidity of that lower middle class whose political ideas he represents that could produce the incongruity of a self-appointed Labour leader denying the political existence of those he is leading—or misfeading. But for that stupidity, the obvious inference would be that to mislead is his direct aim.

But this is nothing to what follows. Having said in effect: "Don't base your party on the appeal to the manual workers, it will lead to intriguing and corruption," this political virgin proceeds to say:

"The party should require all its candidates to place these (ten points) in the fore-front of their addresses as policies they are pledged to, and outside of these they should be free to settle with their constituents, and with those on whom they rely for platform and other support, as to any particular views of their own."

If Auckland Park Sporting Club (or "other support") wants you to vote their way, you are free to bargain any "particular views" of your own so long as it isn't in the ten points. Chuck overboard the driving power of the "manual workers" with no bribes to give, and base your party on the "other support"—that immaculate middle class whose interests vary in every constituency, watering its milk here and sugaring its sand there

As for Creswell's complaint about the exclusion of "brain workers," this is too thin altogether. None knows better than he that this distinction is never made in the Labour movement. It looks as if he were seeking excuses to quit. If there are he class conscious workers left in the Labour Party they should take this insulting document at its true value, not that of the "Rand Daily Mail," and encourage its writer to go and form that middle-class "Democratio" party of his heart's desire outside the ranks of Labour.

D.I.J.

"Elections for the Petrograd Soviet, according to a wireless message from Moscow, have resulted as follows: 847 Bolsheviks; 49 in sympathy with Bolsheviks; 147 from the United Labour parties; 227 Dezpartyny or Independents."—"The Times."

The tyranny of a minority!

No blockade!

The export of tea and coffee from Holland, except to Bolshevist Russis (and Hungary) has been sanctioned by the Dutch Minister of Holland.—"The Times."

The Development of Capitalism

The geographical position and, most important of all, the economic stage of development reached in this country has kept us up to the present on the fringe of the war and after war conditions that have permeated other countries. The near future will see this country falling in line with the social conditions ensuing on the recent European war.

In the past it was argued that it would take many years to develop modern capitalism in this country. The part-time wage slave in the form of native labour, the backwardness of the farming community, and the favoured position of the skilled whites, were pointed to as obstacles to capitalist development.

A few more years, however, will see this country developed as a raw material source of supply. Raw materials are in demand to-day and South Africa's natural wealth is certainly a source to be treasured. The economic conditions favour such a plan. Viewed from a capitalist's "efficiency" standpoint, the enormous supply of cheap native labour, unskilled in our methods of production, recruited by taxation from agricultural pursuits, lends itself more to raw material production than to highly industrialised demands.

Then there is the farming interest whose economic and political position has been strengthened. The war has given this branch of social activity a lift, as the Trade Commissioner of the Union showed in his lecture before the Royal Society of Arts (February 5th, 1918), and although so far the middleman has reaped the benefit, the fact remains that agricultural interests are a force in the country; hence the urgent need for a moderate policy between capitalists and farmers. This moderate policy welding together farming and mining will enable South African natural wealth and labour to be exploited for the world's markets.

The working class if they allow this development to take place will have to face a period of bitter struggle. In England a new process of performing skilled work by simplified machines and specialisation has been introduced. It will soon find its way to South Africa, reducing the number of skilled workers required and therefore increasing the number of workers seeking skilled jobs. Some will drift into the sphere of semi-skilled work, in turn dragging others down the the standard known as the poor whites.

Then there is the broken apprenticeship of returned soldiers; the widows and father-less children of the war and the epidemic, all offering themselves for exploitation in the future and flooding the market of semi-skilled labour. And underneath it all is the struggling native and coloured worker forced into the field of production to produce profits for the capitalist class.

These will be the conditions the workers will have to face, if they will not recognise that the capitalist class is their enemy and organise as one solid mass of ewage workers with the objective of establishing Socialism, W.I.C.G.

The Natal Shop Assistants' and Commercial Workers' Union has brought out a paper. "The Workers' Gazette," at Durban, and Vol. 1, No. 1, is before us. We trust this new organ will prove a true exponent of Socialism.

The Industrial Socialist League, Cape Town, is re-starting "The Bolshevik" as a monthly at 1d., annual subscription 1s. 6d.; P.O.'s to 20, Plein Street, Cape Town.

Scapegoats.

Every revolt by the working class, every incident that upsets the smooth running of the productive forces, every eruption in the social organism is laid at the door of the Socialists. They and they only are responsible according to the capitalistic class sycophants. Many of these know otherwise, but to earn their salt as hirelings of their economic masters they distort the truth of social science, giving those half truths that are more damaging than deliberate lies.

The Socialist parties in all countries have been saddled with each and every incident that has occurred in the present phase of seriety since its inception. They have been made the scapegoats for every episode. "No case: Abuse the other side, was the advice to the lawyer about to defend a client. So auch whese hirelings: they have no case. against Socialism, aigh descend to the viles: tactics of abuse, from the gutter press type to the more insidious form of slander of those writers who pretend to take the workers into wheir confidence, in such articles as those appearing, in the London "Times," as "Ten minutes' talks with workers"; where the workers got but half-timhs of the economic relarions between capital and labour.

These hirelings by such tactics insult the norking class. Veil these factics over as they may, they cannot conceal the fact that they look upon the workers generally as nincompoops led by the nose, at the beck and call of agitailers of the local and more especially of the foreign type who have axes to grind on their own account. This trick of accusing agitators is demeaning to the workers, and reminds us of the loving mother (but without the love) who accuses all and sundry of leading her boy into mischief, never realising that such an actitude is degrading to her offspring. and brands him as an imbecile led astray by other boys with more character and perliaps more devilment in their nature. So the hirelings by their accusations against socialisa agitatoks, foreign or otherwise, are branding the British workers as a lot of brainless idiots carried away by every agitator with a glib fongue.

Every idea must have some material basis. Without that material basis there would be no scope for the so-called agitators. The justification for Socialist propaganda and agitation is to be found in the material basis of seciety-in the economic conditions, in the antagonisms that must necessarily exist in ? a society where a few have control of the necessary tools of production, and the land. A society which compels the vast majority to a life of sufferance and dependence upon the minorityl for the privilege of working for a money wage that buys back in food, shelter and flothing, on the average, a mere fraction of what is produced by them, with no assurance even of this subsistence, and with the perpetual dread of unemployment staring them in the face--such a society léads to discontent and very often to futile efforts to mend and reform the system:

· No case: Almse the other side "has ever been the tactic of those in spower not. only in our present society but in past phases of society. The industrial capitalists to-day are reactionary as all classes are compelled to be who hold economic and political power. To maintain their power they endeavour by every means at their disposal to stay the onward, evolutionary forces. Their hirelings from pulpit, platform and press distort everything in order, to dope the workers. They lay charges and penalise those agitators who have the courage to tell the truth of this distortion. They charge Socialist and labour leaders with being the cause of every episode that occurs in society, from the trivial dispute between an individual employer and his solitary. workman right up the full gamut to the late great war.

Abuse and charging Socialists with the crime of truth telling will not stay the downfall of our present industrial capitalism. They may be branded as scapegoats, but the forces cannot be stayed that must inevitably establish the co-operative commonwealth.

J.M.G.

Capitalist Sabotage.

Robert Minor, who spent nine months last year in Central Russia, says:

I should say that the second greatest cause of Russia's present hunger is that the French. Consulate from Mays 1918, until it left Soviet Russia was engaged in destroying all the locomotives that its agents could reach. Many men were sent out with French Consulate sauf conduits? and Suit cases containing emery powder. By thus "sabotaging", the railroad system, placing the emery powder in the hearings of the locomotives, the French official representatives have contributed more to the death by starvation of Russian people than any mismanagement that the Bolsheviks could possibly be guilty of.

By frequent conversations in Moscow with supporters of Koltchak. I positively know that it is their desire and their plan to incite a wholesale slaughter of Jews throughout Russia as a means of winning power. Not that they are particularly concerned with Jews, but they frankly say that this would be a good way of getting rid of a Government (which in the popular imagination is largely composed of Jews. . . .

The Russian Soviet forces are defending their country "in a truer sense than any people ever defended "its country." in all modernshistory.

The invasion of the Belgian kingdom was a crime. The invasion of the Russian Republic is a fouler crime. Those who march against Russia, or tolerate others doing so, are doing worse than the first German soldiers who marched across the frontiers of Belgium. The rulers who are directing this monstrons assault upon a little republic that is suing for peace, are writing their names in eternal, shame beside the name of William Hohenzollern, and whatever the German working people should have done to prevent the advance in Belgium, the French (and other Allied) working people ought to do it now to prevent the advance into Russia.

Our Annual Social.

The fourth antiversary of the formation of the LS.L. was celebrated vesterday evening (Thursday) by a Social in the Selborne Hall. Johanneshurg. The spacious hall was comfortably filled with comrades and well-wishers of the movement, and although it was not the League at its very strongest, a visitor just returned from England after five years' exile said it was the largest Socialist gathering he had ever seen in South Africa. An agreeable programme was provided consisting of songs by well-known artists who sympathise with the objects of the League.

Greetings were received from the uldustrial Socialist League, Cape Town, Mrs. Rabb. whose invaluable aid in organising the affair was greatly missed and Comrades S. M. Pettersen and Geo. Mason from Durban.

Short addresses were also given by Comrades Tinker, who acted as chairman, and Ivon Jones (the incoming Editor). Comrade Andrews dwelt on the solid progress made by the League as evidenced by the acquisition of an up-to-date printing plant; and Comrade Bunting, who has held the editorship of "The International" for the last eighteen months, gave a short valedictory address. A good evening's entertainment closed with the singing of the revolutionary hymn.

To-day's "Rand Daily Mail" has a blood-curdling account of subterranean Bolsheviks in South Africa going round blackmailing honest citizens for fivers. Simultaneously we hear a story of a disgruntled anti-Bolshevik Jew, of unknown occupation, whose aspersions on his Jewish countrymen gave such offence to the regular habitues (of whom he was not one) of a certain cafe that they offered him £5 if he dared repeat his remarks in speech or writing, and on his failing to do so told the proprietor to choose between his custom and theirs. Now this party is complaining to the police that he has been "threatened." 'Nuff said.

Bolshevik Barbarism.

The following is an extract from the report of M. Victor Henri to the French Academy of Sciences, printed in the "Temps" of July 17th. M. Henri has just returned from an official mission to Russia:

"Neu institutes, collections, museums have been founded. The intellectual centre of the new Russia is the Perrograd Academy of Sciences, which has taken under its protection museums, laboratories, faculties A great es muission has begin see up to study the riches and natural ferges at the disposal of Russia. It is composed of 33 sections, of which 22 work at Petrograd and II at Mos con. Amongs: non institutions created are an institute of obemistry; a platinum institure, where Russian scientis. - have successi ed in discovering the secret process der the separation of platimum and indimm hold by the Germans; an institute of building mate rials; an institute for the amelioration of Breeds of sheep; another for the study of the " soil and mannes. Institutes devoted to radiam. X-rays, theoretical and applied opties, erystallography, hydrology, labour -ali these have been at work for several months.

begun a series of geodesical studies, and has commenced the compilation of a magnetic map of Russia. New laboratories have been added to the institute of weights and measures.

Before the war, Russian scientists published their labours in German, English or French technical periodicals and reviews. The Petrograd Academy has decided hence forth to publish a bulletin in the Russian and French languages. Three numbers of this bulletin of Russian sciences have already appeared.

The Soviet Government in general has been very generous with scientists. It considers that science has nothing to do with politics, and consequently all the credits asked for have been granted. Never has Russian science been as rich as it is to-day."

How to Win Strikes.

A hundred per cent, of the Boston (U.S.A.) adophone girls came out on strike. The "New Majority" reports that Postmaster Burleson threatened to put in soldiers to do. their work. The girls replied with a procession in which every girl walked with a soldier, and a soldier accompanying every girl on picket duty. Thên Postmaster Burleson thought the exchanges would be raided; he packed them with police. It rained; the police ran our and gave their waterproofs to the girls on picket duty and provided them with limch. In China town the Chinese restaurant keepers supplied the 300 pickets with free lunches during the five days of the strike. Fifteen sirike breakers were brought from other fowns and housed in an hotel; the waiters refused to serve them. Students were sem to man the exchanges: the girls on picker duty brought them to the strike meetings. The strike was won!

HOW NOW, S.A.T.U.?

The Socialist Party and the Yugo-Slav General Confederation of Labour, at a recent Congress in Belgrade, decided on energetic action against the lies circulated about Bolshevism. In view of this the compositors' trade unions are using their power to prevent newspapers from publishing calumniating information about the Russian Soviet Republic. Already in Spalato, Sarajevo and Agram no papers publish such calumnies.

Slav towns the bourgeois papers have also been obliged to refrain from publishing false-hoods, and in Sarajevo "The Bell," a so-called Socialist paper, though really nationalist in tendency, has been compelled to cease publication.—"I. Rumanite."

Truths About Russia.

By S. Nuorteva, Secretary of the Bureau of the Representative in the United States, of the Russian Socialist Republic.)

When the revolution came which had been the chief weapon of keeping the peasants down, became the chief weapon in the bands of the peasants theinselves. And so the peasants just took the land. They just took it --whether you like it or not. Whether you approve of it or not, it doesn't matter, because you can't change it any more than s you can change the course of the sun or the. moon. It was, as diplomats say, a "fait accompli's an accomplished fact, which could not be undone. . . . It just naturlly led to many other things. If you afould the property rights on utillions of acres of land you thereby sirplice-a death blow at the very foundations of capitalistic linance. Land is usually mortesized. The value of papers in bank. ultimately resis on land value. If you annul the mortgages the banks are bankrupied. The bankrupicy of the banks, will influence the industrial and commercial life as a whole...

" There is too much insinterity in the world diplomacy to-day. Lloyd George said in his speech before the Commons that he never heard about the peace prope-ition that Lenin had sem with William Bullit from Moscow to Paris, vet a New York magazine says that Lloyd George had lunch with Bullitt the very next day after Bulliti returned from Moscow. Now, Lloyd George was formally right. "He. never received an official presentation of that document. No one came to him, clad in the official garb of a diplomatic servant, with the usual formula. "I hereby have the honour to present to your excellency this and that. Yet he knew all about it.

"Unwarranted accusations of "aitempts to everthrow the American Government's come with pretty had grace when American howspapers are full of attempts to overthrow the Russian Covernment, and when the whole norld policy is directed into an attempt to overthrow the Russian Government.

How do you expect that Russia now, after five years of war and revolution, could have ideal économic conditions with the world deliberately keeffing away from Russia every screw, every nail, every little cog wheel of a machine in every dittle thing which every eivilised commery may need?

It has been said that it the Allied troops are withdrawn from Russia there will be a general massacre of all those in favour of intervention. This story has been printed over and over hundreds of times, but none of the big American newspapers has ever printed the fact that the Russian Government has repeatedly offered that which Col. Robins, said you should demand, namely, to give absolute annesty to every one who has participated in any struggle against Russia. * -So you don't have to worry about those who have been helping the interventionists. The Russians are not out for scalps for the sake of scalps.

The armies at the disposal of Koltchak. who are called Russian armies, are not Russian armies. His armies are composed of .semi-nomadie tribes - Kalmyks, Bashkirs. eic., who have no interest in the land question, with a sprinkling of old regime officers.

If the Koltchaks ever come into power in Russia, they will come into power over the bodies, not of three or four or five thousand, but over the bodies of five, six or seven huudred thousand men. You will have an orgy of bloodshed which you never have had in the world before. Don't you understand that it will mean fighting in each and every village in Russia, that it will mean fighting in each and every house in Russia? Don't you understand that if the Koltchaks are to put down that organisation of the working men which has been established, they will have bloodshed for years and years to come, and when that bloodshed is ended they will have, at all events, a Soviet Republic?

The "C.W.I.U."

iA meeting to forward the new Clothing Union, S.A. Workers Industrial (01will irrespective ganisell be held this Sunday, the 10.30 a.in., at the Star Bioscope, 20th Street, Vrededorp, and will be addressed by Comrades Andrews, Bunting and other I.S.L. members. A leaflet has been prepared for athe occasion as follows:

Fellow Workers. - A section of the workers. in the Clothing Industry have succeeded in imploving their position and brought their wages to a standard more proportionate to the increased cost of living. The bulk of the clothing workers are however) still working under miserable conditions, Ander-paid and badly ted, clothed and housed. Are you socisfied with such fouditions. Do you think that your employers give you, work for the benefit of your health or on account of your good looks? Do they employ you in order to keep your families alive? You know that is not the employers' object. They hire labour in order to make a profit out of yours, toil. Your wages represent only a small portion of the price the master gets for the work done. You are entitled to ALL that ... vou produce. How are you going to improve your position? There is only one way. Unite with all clothing workers in your industrial union. The C.W.I.U. takes in ALL workers in the clothing findustry: Coat, Fronsers, shirt and cap makers, etc., etc., with no distinction of sex. religion or race, for the purpose of uplifting them and bettering their conditions. The master class does not recognise any of these distinctions in making profits. Why should we workers divide where lives are at stake? Our motto is: An injury to one is an injury to all. Do you want to improve your conditions? If so come to the meeting called by the above Union for the purpose of demanding better conditions and wages proportionate to the present high cost sof living.

Subscribers

With the commencement of our eight page issue (3d. per single copy) next week (No. 2011) the subscription to the "International" will be increased to 10s. per annum, or 5s. half-yearly. The many subscribers whose subscriptions lapse about this time of year are asked to renew on this basis accordingly without delay. In the case of subscriptions still running, the unexpired period Ofrom next week will be divided by two, the result being that these subscriptions will expire, and renewal will be due; in half the time which would have been covered by their subscription if the old rates had cominned in force. Thus a subscription valid Ander the former regime up to say, No. 224 (or 225, for odd numbers will be thrown in) will now only be valid up. to No. 212 inclusive; and so on. It is felt that this procedure, if seemingly arbitrary, is the smoothest way of bringing about the transition from the old to the new issue, and that members and supporters will accept it as readily as the bourgeoisie, if they were wise, would accept the transition from Capitalism to Communism.

"PASSIVE RESISTANCE" AT PRETORIA

The main object of the Railway shops strikers in "clocking in and out" as usual but not working was to keep the mea inside the shops and thus prevent scabbing. The A.S.E. members at this centre are 190 per cent. strong--another case, we shall no doubt be told, of the "dictationship of a small minority."

An employee in a large establishment reports that he has been threatened by the Managing Director with instant dismissal for selling the "International." That shows that this paper's the stuff to give 'eni. Let our comrade turn his purchasers into subscribers and everyone will be satisfied.

League Notes.

FREE SPEECH DEFENCE FUND.

Already acknowledged, £212 10s. 4d. Maritzburg list No. 2: Sympathiser, 20s; S.G.S., 10s. Money acknowledged on July 25th on list 92 has now been received.

BUILDING AND PRINTING PLANT FUND. Donations (including stamps).

Already acknowledged, 24404, 3d: 1. K. 5s: W.G., 5s; S.S., 5s; J.S., 2s, 6d; J.M., 2s oid; J.M., 2s 6d; M.D, 2s 6d; A.K., 2s 6d; N.S., 2s 6d; M.B., 2s 6d; M.L., 2s 6d; M.M. 28 6d: A.F., 28 6d; P.L., 28 6d; J.G., 28 6d; J.C., 25 3id; J.R., 208; L.W., 108; M.E., 55; A.F.S., 2015; Do B., 55; G.A., 205; S.S., 36; 3.V., 398; M.D., 208; F.M.J., 208; C., 58; M.J., 20×; J.M.G., 20×; H.M., 20×; G.S., 21x: F.R., 2x: S.R., 5x: J.K.: 112: 1.1., 5x; W.F., 58; C.P., 58; Friend, 28 6d; A.R., 58; R.H., 58; M.B., 58; J.B., 608; A.S., 208; 1.R., 5s; P.F., 5s; E.L., 5s; M.B., 5s; H.B., 20. 1. van S., 5., R.K., 21., W.H. 21s; Bolshevik Maritziang, 20s; 1.11.G.; 1008; C.A.V., 208.

JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

Open air meeting this Sunday. September . 7. West end Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Branch meeting, Tuesday next, September

9th, at 8 p.m., League Office.

Study Class. -- Having secured suitable premises the Study Class Secretary has decided to resume classes from September 11th (Thursday next), therefore all comrades roll up to League Office at 8 p.m. on that date.

Sale of 'Internationals.' Any comrades who have sons over 11 years old and would not object to let them sell "Internationals" in the streets, kindly send them to League office on Wednesday afternoon, between 3.30 and 5 p.m. The time that they would be required is Friday night. Saunday and Sun

Sunday School. All comrades are requested to send their children to the Sunday School, which is held at 11 p.m. every Sunday at League Office. Music and songs.

LITERATURE FOR SALE. Socialism Made Easy, James Connolly, 6d.

Industrial Unionism: What it is and what it isn't, 4d. Industrial Unionism. E. I., Pratt. 6d.

Bed Russia, by John Reid, 9d.

Russia and the Allies, by F. Seymour Cocks, Questions and Answers about Russia, by M-

bert Rhys Williams, Gd. British Consul replies to ante-Bolshovik

Slanders: 4d.

Compromise or Independence. J. T. Murphy,

The Workers' Committee: An outline of its principles and structure, J. T. Murphy,

Self-education of the Workers, by A. Luna. charski, 4d.

The Red Funeral in Vladivostob, by Albert Rhys Williams, 1d.

Maxim Gorki on the Bolsheviki. 2d., Maxim Literinoff on Sovier Russia, 2d.

Russian Worker's and Control of Industry, 2d. Russian Plan for the League of Nations, 3d. British Soldiers in Russia, 1d.

Social Reconstruction in Bussia, 1d.

Postage Id. extra.

A few weeks ago a Native Congress met in Bloemfoutein under the chairmanship of the Bishop of that diocese. Addressing the native delegates, and with reference to the Provincial Education Department's refusal to attend the Congress, the chairman said it was up to them to strengthen their organisation and show the Government what their ideals and work were, and that they had power behind them. What direct action, sedition. Bolshevism, incitement to violence. and disaffection? If not, then what?

Talking of "exciting public feeling or alarm," the Judge President in the Maritzburg case raised the question whether the Church luminary who has recently predicted the end of the world within a year ought not to have been indicted under the Moratorium Act.

Increased Production.

"Produce more, consume less" is the clarion call sounded by politicians in every capitalist country. The cry resounds in Parliament, at shareholders' meetings and Guildhall banquets, in speeches to cricket and football teams and at mothers' meetings.

The question is debated; from two main points of view individual and national.

The first, aspect (the individual) is expoundded by every journalist conceited enough to , think that when he has mastered his granimar he automatically becomes an expert and authority on every question of the day, including of course the problems of unemployment, capitalist production, foreign exchange, etc. The question of the workers' position in the world as producers is settled by quoting those old tags: "One class is born to work, and another class to watch it work," "The Lord maketh the poor and the rich," and similar trash invented by the Church and Jused by the Government in power through the medium of press and pulpit to create such a mental kink in the brains of the workers that they willingly allow themselves to be exploited by those masters and lords of creation, the capitalist class.

Several dodges have from time to time been invented in order to make that process of exploitation by one class of the other less glaring. The wage-system has for centuries successfully camouflaged the position. By making the slave a nominally free man and at the same time establishing private ownership of land and so depriving him of any means of subsistence, the trick was accomplished and the chattel slave transformed into a wage slave.

Money is still the intermediary between capital and labour, but owing to the perfected credit system of banking whereby millions change hands by the simple transference of amounts from one account to another, by the issue of notes, postal orders, government bonds and private credit money in the form of shares, bonds , mortgages , etc., the money market has been inflated to such an extent that the workers must for their own protection demand real instead of nominal wages, real value instead of paper.

It seems that the money trick is about played out unless some other dodge can be found to bolster it up. Numerous schemes have been brought forward to make the wage system more attractive and save it from being shelved, which will inevitably happen if

no other system is found.

The system of pooling profit or profit-sharing is brought forward as a solution. This apparently gives labour a share in what capital has always regarded as its own particular preserve—profit. It is enough for Socialists when they find this system boomed by such men as Lord Robert Cecil, Lord Leverhulme, Henry Ford, etc., and by papers like the "Star," "Daily Mail," etc., to start searching for the "nigger in the wood pile."

The promise of sharing the profit is calculated to stimulate the self-interest of the worker so that he will put forward a maximum effort in production. After cost of material, depreciation, wages, rent, interest, sinking funds, directors' bonuses, etc., etc., have been deducted from the gross turnover, the balance is called profit, and divided as pre-arranged between the two parties. No wonder that the editors of the "Star" and "Rand Daily Mail" think that this is a scheme worth considering. But for whom? The workers certainly make it worth considering from the capitalist standpoint. They, by efficiency and increased production, secure to the employers the payment of the preferential claims. Rent, interest, etc., are, like profits; the surplus value created by labour.

No profit can be created without the production by the workers of commodities for exchange. When this is premised, the workers by agreeing to share what is created by their own labour acquiesce in the claim of the capitalist to the right of robbing them of the fruits of their own labour. The interests of the two classes can never be identical; one is the exploiter and the other the exploited.

orators from Schoolmaster Woodrow Wilson to Tommy Allen, in combination with the press, are unable thus to bring about the desired change in the psychology of the workers, then the switch is shifted from the wire with the current of self-interest to the wire with the current of patriot-

Instead of working for the interest of self, the workers are urged along the path of increased production by national-patriotic sentiments, e.g.: "When we have beaten the Hun in the field we must beat him in the workshop"; "the Union Jack is the only flag in the world worth living under"; "only by increased production can the British Empire remain the greatest Empire in history," and "the world is ruled from the counting house," etc.

Without going into the merits of this method of making increase in production a national matter by turning the nation into a huge trading concern, it will be seen at once that this method is adopted by every nation, and educational institutions are turned into political economy training schools, to produce that mental perversion — "national supremacy"—in the minds of the people. It is evident in almost every nation, from the British, boosting "the greatest Empire the world has ever seen," to the Jews, who got their authority for supremacy from no less a person than Jehovah himself, when he made them his chosen people to rule the earth. The Americans are told that they must keep the supremacy they have gained during the war; the British that they must regain their lost supremacy; the Japanese that they are masters of the East; the French that they are masters on the Continent, following the traditions of Napoleon; the Germans that they must prepare for another trial of strength, and so on ad infinitum, all along a path with the sign "produce more, consume less." The national patriotic motive is applied by each nation in order to gain national supremacy at the expense of the industrial worker, individually and as a class.

Increased production is clearly bound up with the question of supplanting human labour with labour saving machinery, in other words: "Decrease the consuming capacity of the workers as a whole in relation to production, in order to get a bigger surplus for exportation or exchange." Productive power is far ahead of the consuming capacity of the community, in spite of the "Rand Daily Mail" saying "Even the most industrious of the British consume more than they produce." The capitalist system demands for its very existence that a certain amount of value is produced over and above the money value expended in wages, etc. By supplanting human labour with labour-saving machinery the payment in wages decreases in proportion to quantity of output. As the consuming capacity of the working class must always be relative to the amount of wages received, it is inevitable that the capitalist system of production must be scrapped.

The mere fact that more commodities are produced in relation to the number of workers employed does not benefit the workers as a class.

The capitalist system demands an ever expanding market, and with the inevitable contraction under capitalism of the purchasing power of the proletariat everywhere, the market of consumption will progressively contract, with the consequence that competition between manufacturing countries must become intensified in a shrinking market.

Not even the holy alliance of war will be able to stand this strain of competition. The attempt, where one of the partners is able to produce enough for practically the whole world, to form a trading concern, under the imposing title of a "League of Nations," is doomed to failure.

If the starvation contest—where the workers in all manufacturing countries are pitted against each other and the weapons used are "long hours," "slum tenements," "adulterated food," and "shoddy clothing," loaded with the bullets of "speeding up" and primed with "fear of old age" powderhas no decisive result, the old tried weapons

of the strong army and s' sure shield " navy are brought into play to turn the balance.

The pitiful irony of it all is that many of the workers are forced to starve in the trade war and many are conscripted to die in the blood and iron war. They suffer untold hardships and miseries in both—in the name of patriotism.

The dodge of the old religion, with extended payments in the next world, is played out. and a new religion is launched where the government is the godhead, the profiteers the priests, the politicians the choir and Mr. Lloyd George the (mouth) organist. The tax collectors go round with the plate and the congregation files out to the tune of that grand old hymn "My country, all for thee." P.V.V.H.

We calculate roughly that of our total national production (estimated at 2,500 millions) only about one-third will in future be purchasable by labour. The remaining twothirds will be at the disposal of about onetenth of the population.—"The New Age."

The Finnish Pogroms.

The Central Committee of the Foreign Department of the Finnish Workers' Government, Stockholm, Sweden, in the course of a manifesto to the workers in all countries. says:--

"Four months have elapsed since the defeat of the revolution, but still the "White Ternor" is raging in the country. It is obvious that the Finnish bourgeoisie intends to destroy all the organised Socialist workers, all the seventy or eighty thousand revolutionaries, who are now starving in debention camps in various parts of the country.

"From day to day continues the endless destruction of the organised workers. Hundreds die every day of hunger and disease. From day to day continue their executions. hased on decisions of special field court-martials and instigated by the spirit of revenge and class hatred on the part of individual persons. It is estimated in Finland that the 'White Terror' has already killed almost as many people as lost their lives in the civil war—about 20,000 men, women and children. And this mad orgy of murder is not ended

"The White Guards themselves say that the life of a Socialist is not worth that of a dog, and without any penalty anyone may kili a Socialist at any time.

"Comrades in . . Germany and Austria! If our words reach you at all, we want to say to you 'Rise and put down your Government!' It was the German army which defeated the workers' rule in Finland and which is now facilitating the reign of 'White Terror.' Do not say to us: 'Am I my brother's keeper?'—for it is better to die than to be an international scab and an executioner of the workers."

Many Socialist members of Parliament are kept in prison without investigation or trial, and even their alternates, elected under the constitution, are prevented from taking their seats.

Comrades Sydney J. Ward and Fredu Kalk of Johannesburg, were married on Friday last, and at a reception on the following day a houseful of friends and comrades assembled to wish the young couple long life and happiness.

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