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How Good it is.

THAT'S WHAT EVERYBODY IS SAYING TO-DAY of the

"International"

AN EVERYDAY NEED IN THE HOME.

The International

THE WORLD'S CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

THE THREE INDISPENSABLES

Communist Organisation, Education, Agitation.

BEGIN BY JOINING THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

THE ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY (S.A. Section of the Communist International)
No. 4, TRADES HALL, RISSIK STREET, JOHANNESBURG. P.O. Box 4179.

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A New Beatitude.

The bankruptcy in both brain and heart of colonial imperialism has never been so blatantly avowed as to-day, when a "thoughtful" philosopher of Graaff Reinet reaches the b—— limit with a policy for the SEGREGATION OF POOR WHITES, on the ground that they are of "no economic value," in comparison with the native worker, in that most soulless of capitalist institutions, the "labour market." Blessed are the unemployed, for they shall be segregated. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward on earth; for so persecute they the natives which are "below" you. Ye may be the salt of the earth, but ye are henceforth good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden underfoot of men.

The Blind Who Will Not See.

The whole country is ringing with the cry of the workless, white, coloured and black, created by the profit system. Town Councillors travel at great cost to Capetown on their behalf, doles are promised them by the Government, Chambers of Mines receive revolutionary deputations from them not only with sympathy but with a facile concurrence that they are a "permanent" phenomenon, Chambers of Commerce actually sign cheques for them, American visitors declare that they, amiably described as "not worth their keep," are the most striking feature of South Africa, they, or rather the whites alone, are numbered in everybody's mouth by the hundred thousand: it is reserved for our insolent Prime Minister to declare that he cannot find them anywhere.

He reminds us of the undergraduate who was hauled up before the late Dr. Jowett, Master of Balliol, for having broken the college rules by failng to attend the daily eight o'clock chapel. The undergraduate, trying like Smuts to be clever, excused himself by saying that he had sought long and earnestly, in thought, in nature, in history, in philosophy, for God, but could not find Him anywhere. "Unless you find Him by eight o'clock to-morrow morning," was Jowett's short reply, "you will be sent down."

General Smuts' "eight o'clock to-morrow morning" is approaching. He may seek in vain, but if he does not find the unemployed double quick, they will see to it that he is "sent down," and kept down.

Funny Fust Lord.

Col. Amery, a Milner kindergarten boy, now a Navy Minister, replying for the British Government in the House of Commons to Philip Snowden's motion for the "gradual" introduction of Socialism, a motion too namby-pamby perhaps to draw any more trenchant retort, nevertheless emphasises how much more poverty-stricken still the bourgeois platform itself is. "Socialism," thinks Amery, "would require a Butcher-General." Why, what else are capitalism's own Ministers of War and First Lords of the Admiralty? "Socialism would require an Under-Secretary for Underwear." Having mastered our almost uncontrollable laughter at this sally, we wonder why not? The Soviet apparatus is a series of ministries for food, clothing and necessaries in general—but mass ministries ministering to the masses who require these things, not, like capitalist ministries, to the monopolists who produce them and corner them for profit. "Intellects" stunted by the bourgeois blight cannot grasp the great conception, now becoming flesh before their eyes, of a commonwealth which organises the whole of the useful elements of a nation into one great co-operative society of mutual aid. And when he says that "strikes are not a concomitant of capitalism, for they occur even in Australia and New Zealand," he seems to endorse Col. Creswell's conception of these "vonderful" "better lands," and to invite "any schoolboy" of Communist upbringing to tell him that there is no more Socialism there than there are snakes in Ireland.

A writer in the "Contemporary Review" says that the increase of European armies over pre-war figures is due, not to increases of the forces of great Powers, but to the new armies established by the numerous small states emerging from the war. And who established these new armies, and who finances them (at the ultimate cost, of course, of the populations of those small states) if not the Great Powers? And why, if not that they may be used by the Great Powers for the Great Powers' purposes, like the Hessian mercenaries of a century or two ago?

* * *

The editor of the "Sunday Times," after appealing to the editor of the "International" as a judge of good taste, now lectures this paper for bad taste! We are content, as the attorneys say, to "leave it at that."

* *

Dead Lions and Live Dogs.

The "Delville Wood" commemoration meeting in Johannesburg, held by the church ladies and gentlemen, with the aid of the Police Band and several flunkey fighting parsons, was marred (from the bourgeois point of view) by the action of the unemployed, who paraded with their banner, demanding work and maintenance, and planted it alongside the "heroic" speakers. It had a peculiar effect upon, at least, one police officer, who pugnaciously enquired of the unemployed: "Are you looking for trouble?" "Are YOU?" was the retort, and nothing happened this time. The assembled thousands were addressed by Comrades Glass, Haynes, Woudberg, and Wordingham, and certainly they received more applause than the suborned speakers of the "Delville Wood" hypocrites.

"War is hell," said General Sherman. Allright! Let us tell those who have the colossal impudence to glorify war these days to go to hell!

H. W. H.

Necessaries or Luxuries.

The "cost of living" stunt aims, in face of rising or falling prices, at maintaining the workers' standard at the "fodder level," although the native workers of South Africa never had even that benefit, for their wages have remained at practically the same figure in money no matter what the rise in the cost of living, and the Chamber of Mines, through its official "commissioners," is barracking to reduce even that figure by getting immigrant natives at a still lower wage. Anyway, the workers at best are supposed to get enough to keep them in essentials only, not superfluities. It was not for their sake, therefore (in spite of the touching solicitude to provide employment for them), but only for the sake of the well-to-do, that Li Phi was so concerned the other day when he "made a striking reference to the impossibility of drawing a dividing line between the essential and the superfluous in the consumption of commodities, showing that there would be a gigantic contraction of employment if non-essentials were not used." All the same, we recommend trade union negotiators to quote this point at their next wrangle over fodder wages.

Bourgeois Brains.

Whatever may have been the intellectual attainments of capitalism's fabled giants of earlier days, it needs no conceit to find evidence of a very low "mental calibre" among its leading spokesmen, such as the Premier of England in his Ruhr "effort," or the First Lord of the Admiralty in his vastly diverting scream anent Socialism, to-day. The system is addled, and with it the brains of its apologists—and of their millions of working class dupes, let us remember that in all humility. The fact is, they are staggered at the chaos their system has created throughout the world; their brains reel both at the sight of it and at the blank impossibility, on their basis, of remedying it.

The only clarifier is that scientific study of society, history and politics which is the essence of Communism. Leaving aside the towering mental superiority of the greatest Communist leaders over those of capitalism, any average Communist can deal with these matters more clearly and intelligently, with more honesty and "sound common sense," and consequently more hopefully, than the most belauded of Prime Ministers. Certainly we cannot solve, any more than they can, the hopeless tangles they present to us within their system. We cannot help them out while retaining them in position. But whereas their brains are now exercised only in degenerate feats of low cunning, trying to best each other and fool the "public," ours are inspired and stimulated by the generous and exalted future which we foresee and for which we labour unceasingly; by the big humanity of our ideals, not other worldly ideals, but on the contrary flowing directly and with historic certainty out of present-day conditions: and by the certainty of eventual victory as clear to us as certainty of eventual defeat is to them.

GARBAGE.

Editor, the "Sunday Cesspool," to foreman: "What, afraid to print these 'filthy references'? Let 'em have it, especially the Communists. We have a reputation to maintain."

"What is Communism?"

This is a definition for which we have often been asked, especially by new or intending members of the Communist Party. An answer has sometimes been attempted in the form, as it were, of the Thirty-nine Articles: but this kind of bald categorical statement may often fail to carry conviction, and rightly. Communism is not an excogitated band-box doctrine, like "Social Credit," but is a statement of fact based on a reading of human history and society. The greatest of all Communist text-books is still the "COMMUNIST MANIFESTO," which shows Communism as something quite different from older theories, namely, as the logical and historical outcome of pre-existing conditions as between the different classes of humanity from time to time. It explains the inevitable connection of current "psychology" with the means by which men have in different ages carried on production: the comparatively recent rise of capitalist production for profit, and its effect on politics, ethics and religion; the equally natural outcome of it in the "class struggle" and the working class movement, and the certain outcome in turn of that movement—the social revolution, whereby the working class dispossesses the capitalist class and its government machine and itself controls production (in the widest sense) in the interest and for the equal use of all who contribute to production. Sooner therefore than attempt to substitute an inferior "definition" we cannot do better than commend to all enquirers a careful study and constant re-study of that great work of Marx' and Engels' genius, that grand old working class Bible, every line of which, as often as it is re-read, seems written for to-day and to-morrow—the

"COMMUNIST MANIFESTO,"

obtainable of the C.P. Literature Department, 4 and 6 Trades Hall, Johannesburg, and of all C.P. literature sellers, price one shilling.

All members, intending members, sympathisers, and subscribers to the Party or "The International," belonging to Germiston, Boksburg, Boksburg North, Benoni, Brakpan, Springs or elsewhere on the East Rand are urgently requested to attend a meeting called by the Central Executive at the Workers' Hall, Market Avenue, Benoni, on Wednesday next, July 25, 1923, at 7.30 p.m. Agenda: (1) Formation of an East Rand District Organisation of the Party. (2) Elections and candidatures, "United Front," etc. (3) Unemployment and Distress Movements. (4) Branch activities and officers.

Mr. Ochberg will be interested to learn that a representative of the German Ministry for Foreign Affairs, who visited Odessa recently, stated that the Odessa port, factories, and workshops and the general appearance of the town had made an extremely favourable impression on him.

Oliver Twist at Capetown.

Congratulations to the Cape unemployed, whose persistency, according to the press reports, has at any rate secured them some scoff, a promise of some jobs, and £2,000 a month. Now let us see them "ask for more," remembering always that when they get it it is not charity or kindness but a little of their own back, on the strength of which they will go forward, with all their fellow-workers, white and black, to get back the lot and control the whole of industry for themselves.

The unemployed must surely have learnt enough by now to know that their movement must either perish or keep on agitating, not merely for doles (which they have got in England but they keep on agitating still), but for the deposition of the responsible class from power for good and all.

"The form of association which . . . must be expected in the end to predominate is not that which can exist between a capitalist as chief, and workpeople without a voice in the management, but the association of the labourers themselves on terms of equality, collectively owning the capital with which they carry on their operations, and working under managers elected and removable by themselves."

—John Stuart Mill,
"Principles of Political Economy."

Will You be Cannon Fodder?

Capitalism is tottering. All over the world to-day the system is in its death-throes. This is the idea and this the hour: to unite and grip our enemy by the throat and speed him on the way to eternity. We in South Africa are paying the penalty of disunity and of "patriotism" towards capitalistic "ideals." Unemployed ex-service comrades of the "Great War to End War," have you not yet realised the hypocrisy of the promises these parasites made to you? Are you still going to be cannon fodder for them? What hope in life have you to-day? The Iron Heel is being pressed harder and harder on your misery. The Prime Minister's silence is evidence enough of contempt: to the cry of the workless and hungry he replies in a sordid, callous and heartless "negative." Steeped in political "diplomacy," he has sold his soul for power, and was too cowardly to face the three chained men and listen to their plea for the starving unemployed thousands of men, women and children of South Africa. For their misery he has only criminal apathy.

Men and women, submit no more to illusions. There is no hope for you under the capitalist regime. "The Internationale"—nothing else—"unites the human race."

V. C. WOUDBERG.

THE INTERNATIONAL.
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Vote for Smuts' Opponent.

It will be a new experience for most South African Communists to be found supporting Nationalists or even Labourites. It will have to be done this time unless and until the Communists can command the support of a majority of the workers in any constituency (which is even now not impossible), but it will certainly not be done out of admiration for their political ability. What, for instance, can be said for Tielman Roos when he advocates segregation areas (what a hope!) from which he will draw natives to do unskilled work, "thereby giving a better chance to the unskilled whites!" ? Or for Hertzog, who promises a vote to coloured men but denies it to black men, and who at the same time no doubt joins the conventional chorus about a "coffee-coloured country"? Or for Creswell who says, "Australia and Canada are going on all right" (ask the "stowaways" about that)? "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform," and we are all the more called upon to expound those "wonders" because history assigns such imperfect instruments to perform them—we have to expound the wonder of Imperialism's fall and colonial nationalism's rise, the wonder of Nationalism's and reformist Labour's splitting thereafter and contributing to the revolutionary proletarian advance, white and black, the wonder of the workers' and helots' victory at last, the wonder of the World Communist Commonwealth to be. For the sake of these things we will, in the circumstances mentioned above, not only vote for but assist, to the best of our ability and discretion, even candidates with whose outlook we have nothing in common but the paramount determination to end the bloody rule of Imperialist Smuts.

Delville Wood.

"THE TUMULT AND THE SHOUTING DIES."

"BENONI, Sunday.—For the commemoration at Benoni the public were invited to Curtis Park to a united service at 4.15. Only about 300 all told attended, no one appeared in uniform, and there was no instrument to lead the singing. Nearly ten minutes late a start was made with the National Anthem, the singing of which was a travesty. It is felt that if Benoni is to hold these commemoration services in future, some organisation will have to take the matter in hand, and the Town Council is looked to by many for assistance. More than one who attended has said since that a service such as yesterday's was a mockery to the dead and a discredit to the living."—Press report.

"A mockery to the dead and a discredit to the living"—certainly.

"The tumult and the shouting dies:
The captains and the kings depart:
Still stands Thy ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts be with us yet,
Lest we forget! Lest we forget!

"Far called our navies melt away;
On dune and headland sinks the fire:
Lo, all the pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!
Judge of the Nations spare us yet—
Lest we forget! Lest we forget!"

"Dangerous Rubbish."

This is what the yellow press calls Com. Ivon Jones' article on "Awakening Africa," published in our issue of last week. So dangerous to their patrons' pocket and position, indeed, that they already treat it as so much criminal conspiracy, and though it is published in an established newspaper and circulated among the widest possible number of readers, deliberately refer to it as though it were some clandestine matter "intercepted," like De Valera's "orders," by the sleuths of the C.I.D., and now "actually in their possession"—"what makes them so awfully clever?" Langley-Levy evidently plumes himself on this stunt, for he has resorted to it repeatedly before; for instance, articles by the C.P. delegate at Moscow a few months ago were likewise published in the "International," but were described in the "Sunday Times" as mysterious "despatches" which had "come to the knowledge of the authorities" (those news-mongers for the yellow press, their mouthpiece)—mention of the "International" or of publication anywhere being carefully suppressed. Even some Russian famine pictures sold at our Social and Dance at Johannesburg last week are stated to have "fallen into the hands of the police"! Dangerous rubbish indeed, this, so far as it is calculated to deceive the fools who still look to such quarters for their "politics": but to the man with the merest pretence at wits, just such [illegible] dishonesty as figures daily in our police courts.

[illegible]

The Transport Workers' World Appeal.

Comrades! The working class wants peace: It is the only class which has everything to lose and nothing to win in a capitalist war. And surely it cannot desire a war whose aim and consequence would be to plunge the workers of all countries still deeper into misery and exploitation, to fasten the fetters of slavery still tighter upon their limbs.

Comrades! Be on your guard!

Keep up your control over the transport of munitions and other war material in all countries! Take care that this control is made as strict as possible, and carried out with the utmost watchfulness, so that no single transport escapes your knowledge. Report everything to your committees, keep them regularly informed. Be prepared for every emergency.

Be ready, should it be necessary (as in the year 1920, on the occasion of the boycott against Hungary and the action for preventing the transport of arms for Poland in the war against Russia) to prevent the outbreak of a fresh war by actual deeds and by every means!

WAR AGAINST WAR!
DOWN WITH MILITARISM! DOWN WITH REACTION! DOWN WITH CAPITALISM!
LONG LIVE THE INTERNATIONAL OF LABOR!

—The General Council of the International Transport Workers' Federation. Robert Williams, Chairman; Edo Fimmen, Secretary.

Bourgeois "Labour."

The attitude of the London "Daily Herald," still edited, we believe, by a bourgeois war correspondent and recruiter, to the spirited strike of dockers and other transport workers (which, so far from collapsing, is apparently spreading) is a warning to those who like the (white) Labour Parties of South Africa, Rhodesia, and Kenya, try to combine a working class programme with an overriding penchant for "belonging" (in every sense) to the "respectable" bourgeoisie and sharing its psychology. The British Labour Party, as the political organisation of the trade union officials, acquired the "Herald" a year or so back, and the result is that it is now attacking the dockers' strike as a revolt against "trade union discipline" and a breach of "agreements" with masters—the very criticism that the masters themselves make of it. That there is substance in the strikers' effort is shown by the fact that they have turned down the "pacifying" efforts of not only their official but also their "unofficial" leaders—probably substitutes put up as camouflage when the known officials could no longer face the music. Their next step will be to turn down the official management of their "official organ" and replace it by a staff that will in all things side with the rank and file, the bottom dogs actually concerned, actually suffering, actually fighting for very existence and life.

Ill-considered Allegiance.

Henry Ford seems to be somewhat beloved of the "S.A. Review" because he pays higher wages than some. So does the Chamber of Mines in comparison with, say, Jagger, but we love it none the more. Candidates and parties must be judged, by the working class, according to more comprehensive standards than just the wages they themselves pay—or the beers they stand. What class interests do they support, that is the question. The "New York Call" describes Ford's affiliations as follows:

"A HEARST-FORD-KOO KOO ALLIANCE.

"Henry Ford has the support of Hearst for President. Ford is a hater of Jews. This makes Ford the foremost candidate of the Koo Koos. This establishes an indirect alliance between Hearst and the Koo Koos through his support of Ford.

"The Koo Koos hate negroes as much as they hate Jews, which brings to Ford the support of the most ignorant of the anti-negro forces of the country. Ford's income has been estimated at $10,000,000 a month. Thus is established a coalition of dollars and morons, of anti-negro and anti-Jew, of Hearstism and the creed of the stupid.

Never in the politics of any country has there been such a motley gathering of ignorance and dollars, hate and fanaticism, around a more barren programme. We challenge any country in the world to show a lower descent in its political life than this. It is a product of the war, an alliance with a moron's paradise as its ideal."

Feeble-minded "Science" at Bloemfontein.

How completely science, like art or music, becomes anæsthetised by the numbing control of its capitalist paymaster!

A Dr. Dunstan, addressing the Association for the Advancement of "Science," declares that 60 per cent. of the feeble-minded are found to belong to the "poor white" class. If this means that they are poor because they are feeble-minded, it is a silly way of putting it. But Dr. Dunstan evidently means that they are feeble-minded because they are poor. Commonsense would say: "then away with poverty, let your Association apply its brains above all to that supreme problem." Not so bourgeois science. All our Dr. can think of is the different sorts of asylums, prisons or compulsory labour colonies (with reproduction of species effectively verboten) to which he would consign the luckless 60 per cent, with a view to their ultimate "elimination" (he can't put them to work, he says, because natives are cheaper); while as for the well-to-do 40 per cent., who are defective not only in spite of their wealth but probably because of it, we infer from his silence that, being ladies and gentlemen of means, he would leave them at large and unsterilised.

Saints on Earth in Concert Sing

PROPAGANDA FOR THE NEXT WAR.

It is refreshing to read that at Grahamstown and Benoni the war demonstrations of July 15th were a fiasco; an indication in the case of Grahamstown, indeed, probably of the same meanness that cut down the Johannesburg "pause" from an hour to two minutes, but in the case of Benoni, let us hope, of a revolutionary spirit there still burning and illuminating the true nature of the whole performance.

Elsewhere in South Africa the 1917 massacre of Delville Wood has been exploited this year more shamelessly than ever for militarist purposes. While General Smuts and the imperialist gangs everywhere talk of peace they prepare for war: not only equipping their air-fleets against France, their naval bases against Japan, their Balkan and Polish armies against Russia, but making the hearts and minds of their able-bodied youths, especially those too young to share the ex-soldiers' disillusionments, "ready, aye ready" against—no particular enemy revealed to them but whatever enemy their masters may order them in the name of patriotism, to attack.

What is the ostensible object of such celebrations? Search the orations and the sermons, and you will find chiefly calculated vagueness, biscope sentimentality, or bald militarism. "To commemorate the fallen." Yes, what for? Not just for falling, or the same people would commemorate the fallen of Buibock, of Fordsburg, of Amritsar, of Essen and Milan, of a hundred other fields and streets of blood. To condole with the widows and orphans? On that the orators were significantly silent, except the working class speakers who took the platform after the tattoo at Johannesburg and who could indeed condole for those young lives lost, not merely because they were lost, but because they were wasted and sacrificed on a worse than worthless cause.

No, it was not for condolence that the official celebrations were so lavishly maintained this year. "Bravo—AND DO IT AGAIN!"—that was the cry. Pacifists and philanthropists may have held conferences and demonstrations for "no more war": trade unions and labour parties may have resolved "never again"; even bourgeois politicians may have admitted, indeed it has become fashionable for them to admit, the utter misery and demoralisation in all countries, victor and vanquished, bequeathed by the "great" war, the bankruptcy, the starvation, the unemployment, the unrelieved hopelessness for the future, the "chaos" and "edge of precipices," the intolerable harshness of treaties, the "fruits of victory" turned to ashes, the hollow hypocrisy of the war slogans, the almost certainty of war again, and that because, not in spite, of the last war. But to-day it is for these very slogans and for this very next war that we are invited once more to cheer and pray. "Liberty, justice and peace" still mouths the aristocratic Dean of Johannesburg, for all the world as if we were still back in 1914; "the VICTORY OF OUR ARMS, the unity of our Empire" is the "prayer" (save the blasphemy!) of the Salvationist "Colonel" Williams; "should the call come again, the same spirit of gallantry, etc., would be displayed as well as the same spirit of GLORIOUS HUMOUR" chirrups the miners' Bishop—humorous, yes, were it not so tragic, to "suffer for one's country and always desire one's country's best," reading, as we now know how to do, "Li Phi and Solly Joel" for "country," and for this "country's best", its enslavement and degradation. "Unselfishness and sacrifice" it was indeed to die "patriotically" for a rotten and savage bourgeoisie; "the service was not in vain"—for the masters' profit and power. And as a crowning mockery, a parson invokes divine aid, as the savage of darkest Africa invokes the rain makers, "for those engaged in the endeavour to solve such problems as those of unemployment."

The best aid the Deity could offer in reply would be to sweep away the whole guilty gang into bottomless perdition. These soldiers and parsons with their "celebrations" are doing the dirty work of the tyrant class of the world by endeavouring to intoxicate the "public" once more for the new war they may profess to dread but cannot stop. No word of shame, no voice of contrition or repentance, no prayer for peace, not even any attempt to explain the war, still less to denounce it, is on their lips, but only a military display, a calling of the war-clans, a glorification of capitalist arms, a lauding of the same discredited and disgraced shibboleths, including the notorious "Gott mit uns," by which the slaves were driven to slaughter by the million nine years ago. "Hardly anyone believes that Germany is crushed," says the Dean. He even wants to have another stab at the prostrate "Hun," lest forsooth he should go Bolshevik: and he calls it "seeking the Cross of Christ!"

Fellow-workers, have you not been crucified enough, only to enrich the Church's patrons? Are you going to be bamboozled and bewildered and sophisticated again into emulating the fate of the Delville dead, in the next war when, as Lord Grey says, "we shall all go down together"? But remember that if the last war resulted in a downfall of the working class such as the masters themselves perhaps never anticipated, the next will sooner or later become a war deliberately waged by them against the working class. If it is to be another war, which God forbid, at least see that the right party wins. If you are to be drilled again for battle, make up your minds clearly on which side you are going to battle. Take the capitalists' guns, if you like, but not their insidious, poisonous dope. Learn their military science but learn also, by your own social science, the real enemy you have to use it against. Choose your flag now, or you will find when it is too late to turn back that you are irrevocably committed to that rankest and most sinister of treason, making war on your fellow-workers, in which case the fate of the Delville victims will be only too good for you!

How the Cecils Got Their Lands

Sir Robert Cecil, created Earl of Salisbury by King James I., to whom he was Lord Treasurer, advised the King in rewarding his poor Scotch suitors with lands, "but Salisbury had one trick to get the kernel and leave the Scots but the shell, yet cast all the envy on them. He would make them buy books of fee-farms; some £100 a year, some 100 marks (13s. 4d.), and he would compound with them for £1,000, which they were willing to embrace, because they were sure to have them pass without any control or charge, and £1,000 appeared to them, that never saw £10 before, an inexhaustible treasure. Then would Salisbury fill up this book with such prime land as should be worth £10,000 or £20,000, which was easy to him, being Treasurer, so to do; and by this means Salisbury enriched himself infinitely, yet cast the envy on the Scots, in whose names these books appeared, and are still open record to all posterity; though Salisbury had the money, they, poor gentlemen, but part of the ways. . . . So was the poor King and State cheated on all hands."

—Sir Anthony Weldon.

Just Hands.

"The working class are HANDS; farm hands, factory hands, mill hands, mine hands—hands, hands, hands. Do you understand that in this system you are merely the hands of your capitalist masters, that you are fit only with your horny hands to produce wealth to enrich them while yourselves remain in poverty and dependence?

"Hands is what you are and hands is what you will remain in the capitalist system; hands to the capitalist head, hands to be calloused and deformed and to become ugly in the service of the capitalist head that looks down with scorn and contempt; the head that looks from the proud eminence of a palace down into the sodden quarters where the hands rest for a little while to reproduce themselves in the form of fresh hands for other heads that are to be served in poverty and misery and degradation, and so on and on for ever, and this is what the hands vote for every time they cast a ballot for the Republican or the Democratic Party."

—Eugene Debs.

The Child of the Worker.

Further revelations of child torture in the workshops have come to hand, this time from China. The recital would be horrifying, were our capacity for horror not somewhat jaded by the continual presentation of such facts. As it is, the story of the Chinese child can parallel the conditions of brutality existing in England at its worst period of capitalism rampant.

There are more than fifty cotton factories in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, and many new ones are in course of construction. Thousands of children under the age of nine years are employed in these places. Some stand between two lines of whirling, pounding machinery, entirely unprotected by any casing, and feed the insatiable monsters with the raw material; others work at the bobbin machines, a class of work which is peculiarly monotonous and enervating.

The whole place is wrapped in a stifling atmosphere, fœtid, and heavy with dust, through which the electric lights penetrate with difficulty.

Accidents are very frequent. None would have happened if the machinery had been protected. The kept records prove that by far the greater number of these accidents occur towards the end of the night shift, that is to say, IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING, when the demands of outraged nature are most insistent.

The wages of men, women and children are almost unbelievably low; the day is one, in the best of cases, of thirteen hours, and the working week is of seven days; many strikes have occurred, which have been cruelly suppressed.

An average of eighty young workers pass through the hospital every day. The irritant fumes cast off by the inferior material used in manufacture attack their eyes and stomachs. This is unnecessary suffering, and could be avoided by the use of better quality material. This, however, as in the case of protective shafting, would mean additional expenditure and a consequent diminution of profits.

Fifteen thousand boys are employed in the manufacture of tissue silk for five hours in the morning and ten hours in the evening, for no other recompense than their food and lodging—and this during a working week of seven days! These boys are serving a three years' apprenticeship.

It is a fact worthy of remark that in the spheres of influence CONTROLLED BY THE MOST HIGHLY DEVELOPED CAPITALIST STATES the exploitation of child labour is the most unchecked and intensive. For the district around Shanghai the British imperialists are solely responsible. French and American capitalists own and control the majority of the other factories in the districts referred to. The misery of the Chinese workers and the slow murder of their children is the material which supplies the luxury stores of the capitalist cities of Europe and America with the much admired fabrics for the personal adornment of the kept women of the master class.

On these horrors are erected the gigantic fortunes of the captains of modern industry.

(Read "The Child of the Worker," sold by the Communist Party Literature Department, 4, Trades Hall, price 6d.)

War Against War.

By EDO FIMMEN.

(From an address delivered by the Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions and of the International Transport Workers' Federation—somewhat belated five years after the armistice, it is true, but welcome like the prodigal son if it means that the "yellow" unions will "never again" be stampeded as in 1914.)

There is no difference between the workers in victor and vanquished countries, inasmuch as the worker is everywhere the loser, and capital is everywhere the gainer.

By fighting one another on the battlefields as national units, the workers can certainly not improve their position. It is only by mutual endeavour in the international struggle against capitalism and imperialism that they can hope to accomplish such objects.

Internecine warfare does not mean the destruction of French, German or British imperialism, but the destruction and weakening of the workers themselves. Every time the workers of one country assist in attacking and weakening the position of the workers in another country, it means that the working class position as a whole is being fundamentally undermined. The various national groups of workers are only ramifications of one and the same class. The organic growth of the international working-class movement has led to the international co-ordination of labour forces.

JINGO EDUCATION.

The task of demonstrating the need of international solidarity to the worker is rendered difficult by the fact that education rests entirely in the hands of the possessing classes. The nation, the state, is presented to him as the most sacred object of his veneration, and his mind is obsessed by the insane idea that his honour and fame are identical with the honour and fame of the nation or state.

PROSTITUTING "THE FATHERLAND."

The only and exclusive rights which the "fatherland" willingly concedes to the worker are the right to starve and the right to die on the battlefield for its glory and its honour. It is not the worker, therefore, that denies the "fatherland" conception, but that section which, few in number, but rendered strong, aggressive and powerful by its control of the means of production, rules the "fatherland" and deprives the unpropertied of all practical interest in it. This section exploits its fellow-countrymen and only utilises the State in order to obtain additional security for its economic domination.

Capitalism reduces all idea of "fatherland" to mere caricature; still it succeeds in producing enthusiasm for this caricature among those exploited. The capitalists are only able to love their country in this distorted form. Their patriotism immediately evaporates if their supreme domination is endangered or trodden under foot. Then the "fatherland" does not retain their affection, and they sever all connection with it. Their patriotism is, therefore, nothing but the love of their own power. This is proved by the course of events in Russia; by the flight of capital from countries where private ownership is threatened, or even when it is believed to be threatened. Consequently, capitalism not only robs the worker of his fatherland, but does not itself own or recognise any fatherland.

WAR = WAR ON THE WORKERS.

These facts must force the worker to realise that war, in whatever shape or form, never furthers his interest, but only enables the capitalist to extend his sphere of interest and to tighten his hold. As a matter of fact, the modern wars between the great states have no other object than the establishment of fresh markets for capitalist enterprise; that brings no advantage to the workers and consumers, but merely strengthens the position of capital in the home market as well.

Every declaration of war on the part of a State is tantamount to a declaration of war against its own working classes. Constitutions are suspended and martial law is proclaimed in their stead.

Ostensibly, this is done to secure protection against the enemy and to enhance the national power, but its real purpose is to protect the State against the working classes and to insure that the dependence of the dependent is made as complete as possible.

The supreme objective of the friend of peace is the destruction of capitalism, for it is capitalism which is the root cause of modern wars.

In whatever light we may regard the struggle for peace, its aim coincides with that of the working classes, namely, the establishment of a better social order, based on the social ownership of the means of production. This is the only guarantee for economic peace, and this is the unwritten charter which insures "perpetual peace."

TO ORGANISE WAR ON WAR.

War will not be abolished by intellectual weapons alone. The practical war preparations of the ruling caste must be opposed by practical measures on the part of the oppressed; in other words, the war against war must be organised. This must be so done that any movement of the armed forces would be automatically foiled by a counter-movement of the opponents of war.

Incomprehensible as it now seems, before the war the trade unions held the opinion that combating the war was no task for the trade union movement. It was, they thought, a matter for the political labour parties to deal with.

At the third congress of the International Working Men's Association—the first Socialist International held at Brussels in 1868, however, a resolution was adopted concluding as follows:

> This congress particularly recommends the workers to withdraw their labour in the event of an outbreak of war. The congress places its confidence in the solidarity of the workers, and hopes that their support will be forthcoming in this war of the nations against war.

The appointment of a general staff to combat war was definitely confirmed by the International Trade Union Congress held at Rome in April, 1922. Moreover, that congress urged upon the trade unions the duty of waging an energetic and inexorable campaign against war and militarism; and it impressed upon them the necessity for training the working classes to follow any call that might be made upon them to down tools in order to prevent an outbreak of war, and to set aside personal considerations for the sake of the maintenance of international working-class solidarity.

SOLIDARITY, NOT PACIFISM.

The working classes will have nothing to do with those pacifists to whom pacifism means simply the diverting of the working classes from their struggle to free themselves from thraldom—those pacifists who wish merely to pacify the workers in regard to the capitalist classes. Such tactics are inadmissible, for they would mean a tacit acknowledgment of the domination of the present ruling classes.

But a fresh appeal to international solidarity in the interests of the whole of mankind will only meet with whole-hearted response when the working classes are not merely filled with a horror of war, but have realised clearly that every war is bound to bring ruin upon them—when they feel co-operation in all war, whether direct or indirect, to be as despicable as blacklegging in a strike.

This points the way to be followed by the trade unions: Just as in the past they educated the workers to put down blacklegging, so now they must educate them to oppose all co-operation in war work.

The workers are allowing themselves no respite in this fight for peace; they have resolved to offer the most strenuous and unrelenting opposition to war; they declare, in fact, that if necessary, peace must be won by barricade fighting in open revolt of town and countryside.

That is the only war which the worker looks for: the war for peace; the war against war.

For, I repeat: the workers are now aware that in every preceding war they have been duped and led out to murder each other, not in order to defend civilisation, but in order that the capitalist groups of their respective countries might acquire greater power.

The workers know that they have been deceived, and that all the lip-service in honour of peace on the part of the ruling caste is contemptible hypocrisy. War will only become a thing of the past when its root-cause shall have been extirpated and when the egoistical interests of a small clique are no longer able to triumph over the interests of the common weal.

Not Worth Living.

20,000 PREFER DEATH RATHER THAN LIFE UNDER CAPITALISM.

That there is an active objection to capitalism in the United States is evidenced by the fact that scores of Communists are at present in the gaols of that delightful country, simply because they are Communists. But there is also a great mass of thinkers there who tacitly object to this cruel system and simply transport themselves to that place from which there is no likelihood of returning. According to the report of the "'Save a Life' League," 20,000 persons committed suicide in 1921, and the percentage, according to the estimate of an important insurance company, has increased since 1920 by 23 per cent. This meant not only suicide but murder as well in 1,200 cases, these 1,200 people killing 2,000 other persons, one man first killing ten others.

This system of capitalism must produce a terrible state of brain fag, for we are told that "a disturbing fact in the report was that out of those who had taken their own lives, 858 were children, 373 being boys. Most of the boys shot themselves, most of the girls took poison." 509 of those who took their own lives are described as "soldier boys," doubtless ex-soldiers. That was the only chance they had of finding a "home for heroes."

The report proves the Communist contention up to the hilt, viz., that not only do the low-paid workers suffer, but almost every member of the community is affected in some way or other by the system. For instance, amongst those who committed suicide were ten editors, ten widely known writers, forty college students, fifty-one school teachers, thirty-nine brokers, fifty-seven judges or lawyers, eighty-six physicians, ninety-three bankers, seven mayors, seven legislators, and eighty-eight heads of large business houses.

This is a brilliant exposure of capitalist rottenness. The state of decay is manifesting itself in every country, including South Africa, and the cause is to be found in the private ownership and control of the essentials of life: editors having to sell their brains to brainless capitalists; school teachers being compelled to teach ideas they know to be false; children being compelled to "swot" with an already overtaxed brain in order to qualify for competition in the commercial field. These cases can be multiplied; almost every suicide can be traced to capitalist causes. This report is sufficient to compel many to think seriously, and may be the means of helping them to understand that the only salvation out of the present disastrous state of affairs is that new order for which the Communists are fighting, namely, "the common ownership and control of all things necessary for the social well-being of the community." Only then can there be a diminution in the terrible evils which prevail to-day.

W. G.

The Struggle of the French C.P. Against Poincare.

The Central of the French Communist Party recently compiled material for the use of speakers at the numerous meetings held for combating Poincare. An idea may be gained from it of the various arguments employed by our French comrades in their propaganda against the Ruhr adventure. Here is a sample:

THE TASKS OF THE PROLETARIAT.

Extension of the struggle against the capitalist offensive to a fight for the evacuation of the Ruhr and for the annulment of the Versailles Treaty. The French proletariat must demand of their rulers: "Out of Germany!" The power of French imperialism is to be shaken by agitation among the oppressed colonial peoples, so that the militarised black slaves may be prevented from permitting themselves to be used against the workers in social conflicts. The payment of the reparations is to be demanded from the capitalists of all countries, especially from French and German capitalists. The French State should seize the real values possessed by French capitalists, the German State the real values of the German capitalists, until the proletariat takes possession of the means of production by revolutionary action. Intensification of the struggle against the capitalist offensive and Fascism. Fight against every new imperialist war. The formation of a workers' government in Germany is to be striven for. In order to carry out these tasks, the united front of the international proletariat must be formed, and a EUROPEAN GENERAL STRIKE prepared for.

No civil peace between proletariat and bourgeoisie. When the executioners fall out over the division of the booty, the victim has no part in their quarrel. The slave must utilise the strife between his masters to overthrow them, and to emancipate himself.

Misery at the Gates of the Rich.

While the parasitic paupers were rejoicing at the marriage of the King's son in London, and squandering thousands of pounds in useless and sycophantic parades of "loyalty," thousands of workers were actually starving in the very city which is made gay with the trappings of the "loyal paupers." In "The Pioneer," the weekly labour organ printed in Leicester, the following appears:

> "Appalling stories of starvation and misery among agricultural labourers living almost at the gates of Sandringham come from the rich and royal county of Norfolk. Many of the victims are striving to maintain large families on a wage of 7/11 per week, the local guardians, with incredible meanness, having refused relief."

"It is only in England," says "Reynolds," in a arresting editorial, "where the soil is, perhaps, the richest in the world, that this terrible state of things (among farm labourers) exists." "The local guardians refused to grant relief." How generous they are in handing out or supporting any "scheme" for handing out an increase in the out-of-work relief to the son of the King. His relief pay was very considerably increased because of his recent marriage. The labourers of England can starve, but the parasites must be carefully looked after by toadyism.

—"Australasian Seamen's Journal."

The White Man's Burden.

We hear a lot nowadays about "industries" going to rescue the white worker from the extinction threatening him in the mining world. "Leave that nasty underground work to the kaffir," he is told, "and get 'absorbed' by an industry." There is no objection to new industries, of course, although they will always, for the most part, be limited to the demands of a comparatively insignificant local market. But apart from that, are we expected to suppose that because an undertaking is an "industry" it therefore prefers dearer to cheaper labour? This side of the workers' revolution, there is no more prospect of such a thing in any industry in any country than of water flowing uphill. Dr. Dunstan is of course wrong in suggesting that the white must sink as the native rises; rather he can only rise as the native rises. But capitalism sees to it that the native does not rise. Everywhere it necessarily drags the standard of all the workers down and down, ever lower and lower, towards the standard of the lowest in the world. In this country, where the all-but lowest standard already prevails among the great majority of the workers, the hopelessness of the white man's prospects under capitalism, AND CONSEQUENTLY THE CALL TO REVOLUTIONARY ACTION TO OVERTHROW CAPITALISM, is plainer and more insistent than anywhere else in the world.

What is Freedom?

"I have never been able to understand the oft-used phrase, 'freedom within the Empire.' It is understood, I suppose, that the Empire must ultimately cease to be an empire and become the 'Commonwealth of Nations'—a phrase, by the way, with which visiting Britishers successfully befuddle Americans on occasion.

"We have been told by Indians that profit is at the bottom of the British connection, and this charge is borne out by our own understanding of American imperialism to date—which means forced loans on our Haitis, and situations which revolve around our National City Bank. India free, cannot tolerate that profit.' Will England care to stay in India, or have India within a commonwealth (?), without it?

"The editor of 'Young India' uses this phrase 'the ready-made bond of friendship' (with England). I will put with your Americans who are authorities on international law and cannot understand any 'status of equal partnership within the Empire,' many other Americans who cannot see any real 'friendship' with a race which has all these years (with a negligible number of exceptional individuals) held itself a 'superior' people. I confess that I am one of this group. We recall the shooting of men from the mouths of cannon, and match that with the tragedy of Amritsar and the treatment of the Akali Sikhs to-day. We think of the anti-Indian spirit that has crept into all kinds of literature which has come from the pens of British writers in the past (and which has made the Indian people appear to Westerners as half-civilised, heathen; absolutely unfit for self-government) and we compare it with present-day writings in the so-called Liberal publications of England to-day. To this evidence must be added the utterances of representative men who come to these shores from England—men like H. G. Wells, Sir Gilbert Parker, Sir Philip Gibbs, S. K. Ratcliffe (advertised as representative of the 'Manchester Guardian') and scores of similar publicists who take every occasion to belittle, misrepresent and malign India and Indians. I would also instance the vote of the great British Labour Party only this past summer upholding the position of the Government in its attitude towards India."—Blanche Watson, New York, in "Young India."

Conradi, the assassin of the Russian envoy Vorowski at Lausanne in May last, admits having fought under Denikin and Wrangel, and is also proved to have received considerable sums of money from Russian counter-revolutionaries, including the Secretary of the Geneva Red Cross, very shortly before he committed the crime.

"Effrontery."

The "Daily Mail" man gets a bit mixed up in his words when he describes the sale of Russian famine pictures as "effrontery." He really wants to say "inconsistency," but that is not a lurid enough word for journalese "good taste," and not having his "Thesaurus" handy he takes the first that comes into his "brain." It would be "effrontery," indeed, although of a ludicrous sort, if he published the similar photographs of Rand and Cape poverty and said it was all the Bolsheviks' fault. It was "effrontery" when the Chamber of Mines recently broadcasted the S.A.I. Federation's Russian famine pictures (then already a year or two out of date) coupled with a propaganda sheet "audacious" enough to pretend that those pictures were a warning to continue in power the class responsible for the starvation at the Cape and on the Rand. Anyway, who all over the world worked up the relief funds for the genuine famine sufferers of Soviet Russia? Was it the "Daily Mail," which could not find space even to publish a list of the donations? Was it the Chamber of Mines, which refused a donation? Was it the "Weakly Herald" (still distributed gratis by the Chamber of Mines, by the way) whose collections for those sufferers were hardly likely to be very productive after the way in which it put the case? For these people to talk of Communist "effrontery" in such a connection is, to say the least of it, just about as "unfortunate" as it is for them to raise an outcry about "subsidised propaganda."

Unemployment in Petrograd Explained.

The increase in the number of unemployed at Petrograd is due almost entirely to the fact that a large number of workers who left Petrograd when industry and trade were stagnant, and particularly during the famine, are now returning to the city, attracted by the rapid development of her industries. The number of workers employed in these industries increases from month to month, but as yet they have been unable to absorb the great influx of old and new workers from the villages. The increase in the number of unemployed is therefore rather a tribute to the growing prosperity of Petrograd than a sign of depression.

* * *

"If the British Government, acting alone, or in combination with other countries, attempts to crush Russia by forcing a new war, then the workers of the country will be justified in having a general strike to resist," said Mr. Robert Smillie, the veteran miners' leader, at Glasgow, on May 27.

No Humanity for Humans.

"Hallo, is this the society for the prevention of cruelty to . . ."

"Yes, yes, this is the place. What is it?"

"Send somebody over, right away. There's a lean and hungry creature lying on my back porch who is groaning and shivering. Do hurry, please."

"What sort of animal is it? A dog, a cat, or a —"

"No, no; it's a man!"

"Oh, a man? But this is the wrong place; we only care for dumb animals. Humans are supposed to take care of themselves."

It appears that Australian foodstuffs are being sold at exorbitant prices, as compared with London, for instance, where Australian butter fetches 1/6 a lb. retail, whereas in Melbourne it is 2/4 and 2/5. This triumph of capitalist "distribution" is on a par with our South African experience last week, when South African butter was brought back from England to be sold here. "Between them," writes Com. E. P. Bear, "they may make the donk kick."

The Class War on the Railways.

The Rail and Harbour Men's Union has issued a "Rally," of which the chief points are set out below (we have slightly modified one or two phrases) All attempts to break up a union should raise suspicion, in the first instance, not against the union, but against the wreckers: the onus is on them. What are the forces behind them? And what are the members of the Union doing to strengthen or reform it?

HISTORY.

Nurahs came into existence in the fight for the first war bonus.

Nurahs was in the forefront in every stage of improving that war allowance.

Nurahs insisted on the Rail and Harbour men participating in the Graham Commission.

Nurahs in this way got Railwaymen an increase in permanent pay.

Nurahs obtained the Conciliation Board in its first terms of recognition.

Nurahs pressed for the eight-hour day, and got it.

Nurahs was instrumental in securing Sunday pay for salaried staff.

Nurahs has defended its members in the Law Courts when necessary.

Nurahs defended in the cases of Self, De Beer, Mrs. Howe, Field, and many other cases.

Nurahs negotiated the Long Service increment.

Nurahs broke down provincial prejudice and established one Union all over the Railways and Harbours.

Nurahs was instrumental in raising the white labourer to 8/6 and other benefits.

THE PLAN TO REDUCE.

When Nurahs warned railmen against the intended plan to reduce their conditions if the Government got a majority over all parties, it was natural that the Government press should assail Nurahs. From that time till now there has been an attempt on the part of the Administration to down our organisation because it would persist in telling the truth in regard to facts and figures, and in defending the rail and harbour men against reduction in every possible way. Some railmen expect an organisation to contest in their favour at every step and at the same time expect the Administration to pat it on the back. The thing is impossible and ridiculous.

CAMPAIGN OF INTIMIDATION.

Mr. Jagger's plan to intimidate and scare men out of effective organisation began in November, 1921, when at Pretoria he rudely dismissed a Nurahs deputation, led by Mr. Clark, without discussion. He calculated that railmen in South Africa could be frightened out of active useful organisation. Unfortunately for the railmen, Mr. Jagger's estimate of their Union courage has proved far too true. At his frown at Pretoria, a large number of men fell away from Nurahs, at a time when the organisation was very strong. Mr. Jagger to some extent effected his purpose, and was enabled the better to pursue his plan of reduction.

FOLLOWING IT UP.

It would have been surprising if the Minister had not followed up such a successful example. From that time right to date he has by his statements in Parliament and his juggling with "official recognition," endeavoured to establish an atmosphere of terrorism against our organisation. It is natural that Railway Administrative officers in some cases take their cue from such high quarters. The present Minister believes that the methods followed in his own private business of flouting and opposing organisation among employees can be carried out on these State Railways to the point of scaring men out of industrial organisation. The way was thus made easier for repressive measures. Recognition to one of the disposition of Mr. Jagger merely means the recognition to go in and agree with the Minister on everything.

THE MEAN ATTACK UPON MOORE.

This juggle with recognition in order to scare railmen out of Nurahs is the bottom of the amazing subterfuge resorted to almost in desperation by the Minister. Last year as a condition of continued recognition he demanded the formal withdrawal of the Working to Regulation Manual. As it had never been put into operation, Nurahs met his request. This year another "reason" had to be found for non-recognition, and to the eternal shame of a Minister of the Crown, Mr. Jagger charged Moore with complicity with men and actions designed to wreck trains, injure or kill a Minister and others. IT WAS A LIE from start to finish, but the Minister refuses either to withdraw or substantiate. But it was not against Moore after all. It was an attempt against organisation. It was against the rail and harbour servant. It was to intimidate still more people from organisation so that they could the easier be fleeced.

SOUTH AFRICAN RAILMEN, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

The picked quarrel with Nurahs to down organisation, the throttling Amending Bill, the clearing the road of the Fixed men; all these were part of the same plot, to reduce all rates of pay by regrading. When you lost the first instalment of the war allowance you still had hopes for the remainder. But Big Business Brains were watching you, testing you. What did the railman do? Having disregarded the advice of his organisation at the General Election in many places, he realised he was in the soup. Did he blame himself? No, he said "What is Nurahs doing?" He blamed Nurahs, and in some cases deserted Nurahs. That is what the BIG BUSINESS JAGGER BRAINS were waiting for. And so ALL the war allowance came off. And then the EIGHT HOUR DAY. And then the Salaried Sunday and overtime pay attacked. And then the short time in the workshops. What next? Of course your substantive rates of pay. REGRADING! That's where you have got now. But don't think the Jagger policy has worked out. A few months ago at the running men's conference the G.M. read a message from Jagger, denying the rumour that he intended to reduce pay by ten or any other percentage. He was testing you! And the Drivers' Association, poor silly fellows, said they would help to reduce expenditure. Since then they have advertised it in the press. Reduce expenditure by reducing wages—other people's—read between the lines. And now the ten per cent. comes off. The Jagger principle never stops of itself. After this ten per cent.—well, there will be another ten per cent. if you don't wake up, AND ORGANISE, industrially and politically.

THE BOTTOMLESS PIT OF RATE REDUCTION.

And all the time the insatiable maw of big coal and other mining interests, big speculation in maize, meat and other trusts are exploiting these national railways by rate reduction. The farmer, the producer, the State Railways do not benefit—the proceeds are swept indirectly into the dividends of the big coal, shipping, meat combines and rampant speculative export trusts. As fast as one concession is absorbed it creates another DEFICIT. Then again "owing to financial circumstances" there must be further retrenchment, reorganisation, regrading among the railmen. HE MUST PAY! He doesn't mind. He has not even the courage to maintain his organisations to defend, to voice his interests. The ORGANISATION OF BIG BUSINESS with its press overwhelms and knocks the stuffing out of him. Any old yarn against HIS organisation, any old split magnified in the daily "HEAD-LIES" is sufficient to blind him. Any old financial stunt gets him every time.

THE BLACK STANDARD—AND THE KIDDIES.

Standing behind all this industrial question there is a bigger matter—the maintenance of a white standard and the regulating of an upward coloured standard—the one depends upon the other. Big Business knows this is a country of unlimited supplies of cheap uncivilised black labour. Big Business cares nothing for white standards—it cares only for cheap standards.

RAILMEN, HAVE YOU GOT COURAGE TO ORGANISE FOR THE KIDDIES?

RALLY TO NURAHS.

City "Dads" Cross.

I.W.W. HELP POLICE TO ENFORCE LAW.

Those terrible fellows, the I.W.W., who rank second only to Bolshevists in striking terror to the breasts of the "Morning Post" and other old ladies of the "nupper succles," have been at it again.

This time they have been guilty of an impossible crime. They showed too much respect for the law.

There was a strike on in Seattle, Portland, and Tacoma, and the illegal drinking dens were spreading a moral rot through the strikers' ranks.

The "Wobblies" invented a new form of direct action.

BOOZE AND THE BOSS

Handbills bearing the legend, "You can't fight Booze and the Boss at the same time," were scattered broadcast, and crowds of strikers went round closing the bootlegging establishments and lottery "joints."

Then the police woke up. They couldn't help it.

The "City Dads" (as a caption writer put it) were cross, and the "Wobbly" raids were first-class copy for the newspapers.

The "Portland News" said: "The I.W.W. have succeeded in doing in two days what Portland Police, Federal and county Prohibition officers failed to do in two years."

TAKE US TO GAOL.

Police officers arrested two I.W.W. women who stood outside a drinking den carrying placards reading, "Bootlegging Poison Joint."

Along came a crowd of I.W.W. who insisted upon being put on the patrol wagon—the American Black Maria—with the women.

"What for?" asked the police.

"We want to be arrested for enforcing the Prohibition laws," answered the "Wobblies" cheerfully.

The saloons at Seattle, Portland and Tacoma are closed now, and the I.W.W. are wearing large-sized smiles.

Labour News Service.

Acknowledgments.

We gratefully acknowledge the following further donations to the "International" Guarantee Fund: June: V.B. 5/-, W.F. 5/-, M.G. 4/-, R.G. 4/-, A.V. 5/-, J.H. 20/-, P.D. 10/-, A.A. £5, W.M. 5/-, H.B. 5/-, G.M. 10/-, R.E.C. 5/-, C.S. 1/6, H.G. 20/3. July: M.P. 4/-, G.M. 10/-, V.D. 25/-, V.B. 5/-, M.G. 4/-, W.F. 5/-, A.V. 5/-, P.D. 10/-, Kam 10/6, H.A. 10/-, R.G. 1/-, M.B.M. 8/-, H.B. 5/-.

* * *

The "public" is that section of the population which is too stupid to disagree with the bourgeoisie.

Do you agree with us?
THEN JOIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

Russian Church Reform.

(The British Press reports of the recent Church Conference in Moscow have suggested that the conference was not really representative of the Russian churches at all, but was merely an assembly of priests subservient to the Soviet Government. The following summary of an article on this subject in the Moscow "Isvestia" of May 11th shows the importance to be attached to statements of this sort.)

The second conference of the Orthodox Church, which has just concluded, has at the same time been the first conference of the "Regenerated Church," and has given an indication of the point reached by the movement for reform. This movement first began as a protest against the openly reactionary position taken up by Tikhon and his followers, and their opposition to the Soviet Government. Some of those who were present at the conference have spoken of this reform movement as revolutionary, but this is most decidedly an exaggeration. The movement has not been revolutionary; it is even doubtful whether it has been seriously reformist in a political sense. The Church, it is true, is undergoing an internal struggle, and the two sections or parties are in antagonism, but the politically reformist groups represented at the Congress show very few revolutionary tendencies. Moreover, a number of politically left-wing groups—such as, to mention but one, the "Free Labour Church"—were not allowed to participate in the Congress at all. Many of the real dissenting sections which have arisen spontaneously amongst the masses have been excluded from the organised reform movement and from the Congress.

On the whole, this reform movement represents a liberal, and partly even a radical, church political party, which is the counterpart in the church of the "Smiena Viekh" liberal group outside. That is, while essentially anti-Bolshevik, nevertheless it recognises that the Soviet Power has come to stay, and that the latter is on the whole beneficial to the country. These groups are therefore prepared to work with and under the Soviet Government.

BRANCH NOTES.

JEPPE BRANCH.

Wednesday, August 1: Branch meeting; discussion on "Evolution and Revolution."

* * *

JOHANNESBURG BRANCH.

Thursday, July 26: "The Native as a Revolutionary Factor"; opener, S. Barlin.

Thursday, August 2: Branch meeting.

Members are reminded that a condition of membership is to SUBSCRIBE to the "International."

* * *

On May 24 a postal and telegraph convention was signed between Russia and Poland. This will, among other things, make postal communication between Russia and the West both cheaper and quicker.

The Progress of Russia.

FINANCIAL.

Among all the indications of Russia's economic recovery none is perhaps of greater significance than the improvement in the State's finances since the beginning of 1922. In the month of January, 1922, no less than 95 per cent. of the State's expenditure had to be met by the issue of notes, taxes and other revenue providing only 5 per cent. of the total required. The Government, however, set itself resolutely to the task of working towards a balanced budget, and by the cutting down of expenditure (especially on the army) on the one hand, and the development of taxation and industrial revenue on the other, succeeded in the course of 1922 in rapidly reducing the deficit which had to be met by note issues. At the present time, this deficit is not more than 30 per cent., and the People's Commissary for Finance believes that it will not be many months before it is possible to abandon currency emission altogether as a source of revenue.

ECONOMIC.

The decree on State Trusts secured the combination of state ownership and control of industry with independence and initiative in the management of particular enterprises. In the decrees on foreign trade we see a similar principle at work. It is essential to Russia that her foreign trade should proceed in accordance with a well-thought-out and carefully controlled plan; hence we have the State monopoly of foreign trade. On the other hand, it is equally necessary that the particular users of imported goods and the exporters of Russian produce should have the fullest possible initiative compatible with the national plan; hence we have the licences and certificates granted to particular enterprises to engage in foreign transactions, for which they may send their own representatives abroad. Thus the decrees on foreign trade reaffirm the State monopoly, the single national plan, and provide an effective controlling machinery, both in Russia and abroad, for transactions by particular Russian departments and enterprises.

AGRICULTURAL.

Prospects for this year's harvest remain satisfactory. The latest reports show that on June 15 the condition of the crops was—in the northern and north-eastern regions, good; in the north-western region, below average; in the central black earth region, average; in the south-east, above average; and in Siberia, very good. According to a Rosta message from Moscow, it is estimated that the amount of grain available this year for export from Russia will be no less than two and a half million tons.

The Literature Department has in stock copies of "Resolutions of the Fourth Congress" of the Communist International, held at Moscow in November and December last, at which the Communist Party of S.A. was represented. Price 1/3.

COMMUNIST PARTY NOTES.

CAPETOWN BRANCH LECTURES.

The first Thursday lecture held in our new hall was given by Comrade Pereira on "Mythology." Life would be drab indeed (to all but students of Marx) if we had no illusions or fancies with which to drape the cold naked truths of everyday existence. Some folks scorn myths; but I think we should seek information on every subject possible, if only to be able to show its fallacies.

An animated discussion followed the lecture, varying from the "Immaculate Conception" to the origin of the cross, and also the later fables of King Bruce, who, some say, could NEVER have seen a spider in Scotland! But, as every sweet flower has its bitter bud, and nearly every insect its sting, so the sting of Mythology lies in the tale which is told in the cause of religion of all nations by their ruling classes to dope the minds of the credulous and blind their eyes to reason.

The following week the subject was "Materialist Psychology," and as usual the good wine was saved till last and came out in discussion. One member of the audience declared he had no time for psychology unless it could hasten on the social revolution. To my mind every new thought is a step towards freedom, a bullet shot at our enslaving enemy ignorance. Too often we forget that reasoning is one of the highest powers of man, and look upon our brain as a kind of empty mould into which the liquid information is poured, and the shape turned out when set. That would seem to be the case in many of our public schools, for we find no originality and no individual effort at deduction. They seem to turn out a little set of snobs, with a little set of "ideas."

Reason is said to be a tool in the service of the emotions. If so, it is too often a forgotten one: witness the great emotion displayed on the football field or battlefield. Emotion so sways a man that he would die for his king, his country, his flag, and never feel the loss of reason.

In "Man's Unconscious Conflict," by W. Lay, we are told that the real causes of our daily behaviour having been revealed to us by psycho-analysis, we are in duty bound to reckon with them in order to array the unlimited power of those unconscious wishes on the side of modern progressive social action. This process is called sublimation, because it sublimes (an old word in alchemy) or sublimates the crude desires of the unconscious.

Just as the alchemists of old thought they could transmute the baser metals into gold, so the philosophers have found that we can change the direction and objective of the baser desires into higher ones having more gold, that is, more value for the modern development of society. In "Creative Revolution," by Eden and Cedar Paul, we learn that "society may be so transmuted that the conflict of wills dependent upon class conflicts and sex conflicts, and upon differences between crabbed age and youth, will be as far as possible removed. No "ideal" of social solidarity or sex solidarity will put an end to conflict so long as relationships of economic mastery and dependence subsist between classes or between sexes. When these basic differences have been eliminated the aim of education in the "ergatocratic" state will be, with a minimal suppression of healthy individuality, to produce a type of adult who will, as by second nature, desire to do what it is advantageous to "society" that he or she should do."

ALICE E. HARRISON.

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