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The International

THE WORLD'S CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

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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Our Eighth Anniversary Social & Dance

Selborne Hall, Saturday Sep. 8.

TICKETS:
DOUBLE 5/-, SINGLE 3/-.
BOOK EARLY.

"War on War!"

Smuts' speech to his party on the European situation need not, of course, be taken at its face value; The fate, not "of Europe" but of the S.A.P. power "is in the balance," that is what gives the greatest concern after all: and other arguments failing, our showman falls back on the stunt "In this grave situation you need a STATESMAN; I am the only man in S. Africa at any rate who claims that rank, and that is why you should vote S.A.P."—in short, "The Man and the Hour" over again. If the workers fell to that bait again they would deserve all they got.

But let us also not minimise the seriousness of the situation. Once more, as in 1914, we can see the rival capitalist nation-groups manœuvring for position, calling for allies, cabling to the Dominions, etc., etc. Once more they are groping for war cries like "Gallant Little Belgium," and so far with very indifferent success. "Saving the world from disaster" seems a poor reason for plunging the world in disaster, and the most specific slogan is "prevent the break up of Germany"—the break up which was the very object of the war that (nominally) ended only five years ago! It would be irony indeed if we were called upon to-day to fight for "gallant little Deutschland"!

The only way to save the world from disaster is to frustrate the knavish tricks of the whole gang now enchaining it, whether in Britain, France, Germany or America. The "precipice" they fear is the precipice over which they themselves are going to tumble, but the world will then for the first time have its opportunity for reconstruction. We workers in all lands are naturally gullible, but we are not quite such fools as to give these scoundrels another blank cheque. We have seen some of the anti-French literature which has already been spread over England for obvious purposes; but "once bit, twice shy." The divisions among the world capitalists are more complex than in 1914: and the workers have the advantage to-day of a Communist International to guide them.

"War on War!" then, except only the war to free the "workers and working peasants" of all lands from the warmongers. That war has already broken out in Germany, and if international war is to break out again, it must inevitably become a world class war. By class solidarity, aided by all the anti-capitalist-war forces, we (but not Smuts and his crew) may still avert the new Armageddon: we may still realise our objective without going through that unimaginable hell. Only let us have no doubt this time that only through realising our entire objective can we "save the world from disaster."

Back-Stabbing.

The pamphlet, "The Labour-Nationalist Alliance: How to make the pact Permanent": by "A Labour Man" (bogus, of course, with no printer, publisher, author or auspices mentioned), which really, I understand, emanates from the Chamber of Mines and its new Yankee propaganda editor, is a very amusing, and to some extent clever, hoax. It has sufficient truth mixed up in it to make it appear wholly true, and the points seized upon are those about which most prejudice exists in the back-veld. Of course, it is wholly childish—which may be intentional. It is clearly enough the work of a renegade Socialist, who has not been in the movement since the days of the anarchists Most and Ravachol, but the bracketting of Colonel Creswell, M.I.M.E., D.S.O., M.L.A., with Lenin and Trotsky, is rather hilarious. I fancy the C.I.D. could find the author by holding an identification-parade of the "Sunday Times" staff and picking out the individual who seemed to have the heaviest weight of care to carry.

S.Y.

Dockers Still Dogged.

The old, old story.—Dock Strike Press headings on Tuesday morning:—In the "Daily Record"—"Dockers going back"; in the "Bulletin"—"Dockers Stand Firm: More Men Out!"

The latest cables from London are equally misleading. "1,500 dockers are returning" boast the Union Officials—but 60,000 went on strike. "Including those who were the centre of the 'unofficist strike movement'": but, as we reported last week, that movement was itself controlled by "Johns," who were there to lead a retreat when the moment should appear promising from the masters' point of view. "All power to the Transport Workers, the men themselves" is the slogan that still holds the field.

[illegible—which is ... —makes ... as ...]

"TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM DISASTER."

—Smuts! (!)

(The original of this picture hangs in the Red Hall at Moscow.)

BALDWIN, POINCARE, SMUTS, EBERT AND CO. ARE DRIVING MANKIND EVER DEEPER INTO DISASTER. ONLY THE MIGHT OF THE WORKERS WILL SAVE THE SITUATION. WITH DESPERATE HAMMER BLOWS, NOW HERE, NOW THERE, THEY ARE SMASHING ONE BY ONE THE TYRANT CHAINS AWAY, UNTIL AT LAST THE WORLD SHALL BE MADE SAFE FOR HUMANITY.

Keeping the Nigger in His Place

(By R.A.N.)

The evolution of the native is at present impeded by two forces: the capitalist greed for wealth and land monopoly, and the white workers' claim to ascendancy over their dusky fellow workers on the ground that they are thus preserving a "white standard." Most white people do not believe in the evolution of the Natives, so much so that they look upon them as people not capable or fitted to make any progress. Whenever signs of progress among the natives display themselves they are quickly condemned as mere imitations or a case of "aping the white man." At the same time there are those who are prepared to admit that the tribal system has broken down and that native life is changing at tremendous speed. While they so admit, they refuse to allow their conscience to believe it to be true.

* * *

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Consequently we find in the country areas natives working for practically half a loaf of bread. In other parts of the country, owing to a land monopoly, natives mortgage their stock, indenture the labour of their children and their own, in consideration of a right to remain on the farm and graze their stock—both large and small. Other conditions attached to such indentures and mortgages are that the native shall allow his daughters to work for the farmer for a whole year without pay and his sons to herd the cattle and plough the lands of the farmer. All this labour is given, in addition to the right of staying on the farm, for another small consideration in the shape of one or two acres of land upon which will depend the whole livelihood of such family. Other farm owners who employ families destitute of stock adopt the same system with these few exceptions, that all the members of the family shall give service and in return receive wages rating from 3s. to 10s. per month plus one bag of mealies to last them strictly three months.

* * *

HOW THEY ARE ROBBED.

I remember a case that came to my notice of a native who was employed to plough the lands of a farmer on a half share of the ground cultivated. In about May the crop on the portion allotted to the native was better than that on the portion set apart for the farmer. The farmer offered to exchange the lands so that the native should have the bad crop he had provided the seed, labour and farming implements. Naturally the offer was rejected. One day he was ordered to go out on an errand with his transport wagon. When he returned he was told to go further, a distance of three days. The native pleaded that his oxen were tired and required rest for two days. This gave the farmer a pretext to give him a "trek pass" to quit the farm within seven days. The poor man went out looking for a new place to stay at. When he returned to reap his crop he found the white farmer had done so for him but refused to deliver the crop and advised him to take the crop he had previously offered. This led to litigation which cost the poor native his whole wealth.

* * *

FOR CHRIST'S SAKE.

There is a certain church that went out to christianise the natives. Immediately it got a few converts it suggested the idea of purchasing a farm on which to establish a Mission Station and induced the native adherents to contribute towards the purchase price. They gave their best—parted with hard earned money and stock in the hope that they were helping to establish a permanent home for themselves and their descendants. Their hopes were vain, for after fifty years of occupation the Church Council levied heavy taxes and made life intolerable, until the natives complained. Those who raised a protest against the heavy taxes were served with notices to quit the farm. I understand an action will soon be instituted by these natives against the Church Council for the payment of improvements made by them on the farm, for it is one of the best improved Mission Stations I have ever seen.

* * *

HOW THE STANDARD IS KEPT DOWN.

These are conditions that exist practically in any part of this country, making any self-development impossible. Those natives who live on farms as labourers and who earn a wage of 3s. to 10s. per month, however they may struggle to improve their lot, have but one end before them, and that is ultimately either to succumb to the inevitable and become economic slaves or eventually to revolt against the perpetuation of the wrong that is being done them. At the present those whose conscience has been awakened and who feel these injustices to be unbearable are drifting into towns in search of pastures new. Here too, they refuse to sell their labour to the mines where they are not offered any scope for improvement.

(To be continued.)

Welcome to Strike Prisoners.

The Berkeley Rooms, Johannesburg, were thronged on Wednesday night with a thoroughly working class gathering, representing all sections of the "United Front" of white workers at any rate—no matter what S.A.L.P. excommunicators may decree—to welcome back the strike prisoners recently released into what they can find of "liberty" under the usurper flag still floating over this benighted country. Twenty-three out of twenty-eight were present as guests of the evening, and were welcomed by Joe Thompson as chairman: and on their behalf brief replies and reminiscences of gaol experiences and emotions were given by Coms. Dan Colraine, Donald Snowden and J. van der Watt. A capital programme had been arranged by Mrs. L. Crawford (not Archie's, we hasten to explain), the artists being Mrs. Laubscher, Mrs. Crawford, Miss Wheatley, little Miss Thelma Short, Messrs. A. W. Bottomley, Nicholls, Haynes sen. and jun., Sid Lukies and the "Release" Choir (in "Who Killed Jan Smuts?"), to all of whom the thanks of the "Strike Prisoners' Release Committee," responsible for the function, are due. A large proportion of those present were evidently new to gatherings of this colour, and gave in their names as members of the Committee with a view to assisting towards the release of the nine strikers still behind the bars. The function was one of the greatest successes we have ever attended.

Venom.

To those who may not have understood the outburst of the prisoner convicted this week of the murder of Detective-Constable S. J. Kruger—"I am sorry I could not kill more of those dirty dogs" (pointing to the C.I.D.)—it should be explained that Kruger was one of the most prominent crown witnesses in strike prosecutions last year, whose evidence (like that of other C.I.D. men, of course) materially contributed to more than one conviction and sentence. It seems that not only the convicted strikers themselves remember these things, and that the advice to "forgive and forget" class enemies or their tools is falling out of favour to-day in the venomous atmosphere created everywhere by a capitalism grown desperate.

"Marks Race Roubles."

Well, there is not much in that. A group of United States Senators and prominent industrialists has arrived in Moscow. One of them declared that Russia's successes in the sphere of the restoration and stabilisation of her currency were an absolute surprise to him. As far as the State Bank was concerned, RUSSIAN CURRENCY WAS QUITE STABILISED, in his opinion; final stabilisation, he thinks, will be achieved when the printing of fresh paper money ceases and all expenditure is covered by income. Discussing political questions, Mr. Sinclair said:—

Independently of what he thinks of the Soviet Government, every friend of humanity must be grateful to Russia for the example of disarmament she has set to exhausted Europe. Russia's foreign policy is unquestionably to avoid wars.

Russian paper money is quoted on the London money market and closely follows its fluctuations. According to the "Statist" of June 30, the Russian State Bank carries a 50 per cent reserve—more than can be said of our own precious "Reserve Bank," for one. Here is the advertisement which we take over from the "Statist" of June 30 last:—

State Bank of the R.S.F.S.R.

(Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic).
Created by decree of the Soviet Government of Oct. 12, 1921.

Tchernovetz.

Total resources on April 16, 1923, including
Issue Department 16,585,761
Total amount of notes issued 6,500,000
Gold Reserve of Issue Dept.... ... 3,615,852,3

Note:—One Tchernovetz is equal to 10 roubles gold.

Head Office: Neglinni Proesd 12, Moscow.

The bank is represented by over 200 branches and agencies in all the principal towns of European and Asiatic Russia; the bank accepts deposits and opens current accounts in foreign and Russian currency; remittances made to all parts of European and Asiatic Russia, payable both in Russian and foreign currency, documentary credits opened; bills discounted. Documents payable in Russia collected; banking business of every description transacted.

London Agents: Lloyds Bank, Ltd.
20 King William Street, E.C. 3.

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The German Revolution.

With bated breath we in South Africa are watching the steady but dangerous upward climb of our German comrades, as tourists from a hotel garden follow through a telescope the perilous ascent of mountaineers up some Alpine ice-slope. A single false step, a faulty rope, a treacherous snowbridge, may mean disaster to the whole party; an avalanche may overwhelm them; a storm may close in on them. Yet given the utmost caution, prudence and doggedness, given wise guidance and reasonable good luck, we are encouraged to think the time is approaching when they will triumphantly set foot on the summit.

Nothing could have favoured our cause in Germany so much as the present disagreement between (capitalist) Britain and France, more intense than ever now that France, in retort to the British note, has seized all mines in the occupied territory, thus relying on possession, even if Britain should frustrate her right by concession. The "Times" says the reparations question may well become obsolete while that quarrel is being protracted. We hope or believe it is already obsolete, not on account of German "bankruptcy" alone, but because a Workers' Government is preparing in due course to take power and incidentally, like its Russian predecessor, to repudiate a debt of dishonour incurred only for the enslavement of the German masses.

Changes may even come with dramatic swiftness in such an atmosphere. On Saturday, we read that the Communist challenge to the Government was greeted with "laughter"; on Sunday, the Government fell on a Communist vote of no confidence! And the scanty news since perhaps points to further developments unpalatable to the patrons of the cable agencies. We must not look for sensations all the time, however, for a million armed men west and each are ready to pounce, and only the quarrel of Britain and France could hold them back if a pretext were given. German working class progress may therefore still be restricted to methods as peaceful as the opposing forces within and without will allow.

But even on the political field a striking success has been achieved—especially so soon after the Hamburg excommunication of Communists—in the United Front of Social Democrats with Communists (as in the Marty election in France) to oust the Government, with a programme of seizure of capital, (apparently) revival of the revolutionary workers' control commissions established in 1918 and then sabotaged by the Social Democrats, and release of political prisoners—just the programme foreshadowed over a year ago by the Communist International. Plums of coalition office may be tempting some of the Social Democrat leaders away from this bloc: still, we can already see proletarian solidarity operating as never before, on an international scale, while capitalist international solidarity breaks down more seriously than ever.

"The situation," says the cablegram "resembles what happened in Russia." But it is even more difficult, and it may involve a Brest Litovsk far more sacrificial than Russia's. Three and a half years ago Lenin in his 'Left Wing Communism" pointed out the false brand of German "National Bolshevism", talking of a bloc with the German bourgeoisie for war against the Entente, and emphasised the necessity for a German Communist Party, having gained a political victory at home, to recognise and submit for a time to the Versailles Peace—and now perhaps even to the Ruhr occupation and possibly loss of the Rhineland—if the international success of the movement did not warrant a bolder external policy. As for Russia to-day, so for Germany the first necessity of a Communist victory will be peace, at almost any price consistent with the maintenance of political supremacy against Fascism and counter-revolution. The best aid we at this distance can offer in the European situation is to redouble our own efforts here, and so contribute our bit towards "the international success of the movement": and even here the near future offers quite appreciable possibilities. . . .

Production & Distribution for Use.

The Russian Government, controlling Russian foreign trade, will "exchange its surplus wheat for tools and machinery which its peasants badly need." —Reuter.

Come, all ye capitalist apologists. The docks of Capetown are cracking under the load of surplus maize. The farms are bursting with surplus cattle, and meat is a glut on the market. Under your system this is a disaster all round: the farmer is in the dumps, the consumer scarcely feels any change, and the exporters just put their profits in their own pockets. Who ever heard before of foreign trade being directly turned to the use of the needy masses? It provides motor cars for the merchant and racehorses, yachts and Paris dresses for his sons and daughters, but it leaves the people still without the most elementary needs of life. Whereas this "grinding tyranny of Lenin and Trotsky," which "dominates by force over a terrorised nation," turns out after all to be the one administration in the world which devotes its production and distribution to the use and benefit of the "great bulk of the population" which produced the goods.

Here you have exemplified the "strength and beauty met together" of the "better world in birth." That one little cablegram sums up the whole difference between the "path of GOLD" ideal of the old system and the "need of a world of MEN" which the new system is to satisfy.

The Colour Bar—Its Collapse and the Cure.

The intensified desire for cheap labour on the Rand, inaugurated with the shooting down of the strike last year, has not abated, and there is not much reason why it should abate under capitalism; a Nat.-Lab. Government will be able to do little or nothing directly calculated to abate it either. Last week we heard that Messrs. Thorntons had dismissed their white employees (four of whom are members of the National Vehicle Builders' Union) and replaced them with cheap black labour "as an experiment owing to business being cut so fine," and in a pending prosecution under the colour bar regulations, a witness says: "Eighteen months ago white men drove locomotives; then the change to natives was made." It is going on all round. What is to be done?

It is not enough to wait for such things to happen and then have a strike or a prosecution by way of protest. A strike to maintain wages is no doubt an essential working class activity, but just because it is a class activity, the whole of the workers concerned, including the mass of those likely to receive the low wage if nothing is done, must be permanently drawn into the "forward movement." It is not as if the cheap labourers were exceptions, scabs or traitors. They are a huge mass; they have not only never been organised, but as a rule the unions concerned have foamed at the mouth at the very suggestion of organising them, as "lowering to the standard of the white man." Whereas the real position is that they lower the standard of the white man, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE ORGANISED BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT ORGANISED, AND THEREFORE TAKE THE JOB CHEAP.

No doubt this presents a colossal task to the white unions. It may be not so impossible to get in the comparatively few coloured or even native wheelwrights or blacksmiths or engine drivers on the Rand, as the Building Workers have done in the Coast towns with similar competitors, although even this will tax the ability, patience and tact of the organisers to the utmost. But here we are face to face with an almost unlimited reservoir of potential cheap competition from all over Africa, which cannot all be organised, although a spirit of organisation can be created among them in industrial centres. The position ceases to be merely a craft problem and becomes a problem of world-wide politics. And world-wide capitalist politics provide no solution for it either. Co-operation with the masters, for whom this cheap competition is the breath of life, provides no solution for it. State Banks and Credit Control Stunts provide no solution for it. Only the ending of the profit system and profit-making class offers an escape. And for this you must organise not merely on a craft or even a white industrial scale, but on an inter-racial and national and ultimately international scale; and organise not for trade union purposes only (which really succeeds only so long as the demand for labour is brisk) but for the revolution which alone will provide the desired end, a "civilised living and a real forward movement" for all. The well-organised Germans, for instance, at the present moment cannot enforce a wage of even 6d. a day, but they are going to be a decisive factor in the coming German revolution, after which all those things will be added unto them.

You will say: First let us organise ourselves as whites, and then we will see what we can do with the others. Possibly. The main point we want to make here is that these cases of breach of the colour bar are not capable of being solved one by one. The whole political position has to be faced, not only whenever a case arises, but all the time. It requires the attention, not of one branch or of one union at a time, but of all the labour organisations in concert, and not only on a Rand or even a S. African but on a world scale. For a beginning a Trade Union Congress or standing committee is required to handle the whole question, and particularly to establish contact with the representatives of the cheap labour concerned—the one consummation which capitalism is above all anxious to prevent.

Another "Liar" of Course.

That the mass of the Russian people are living in a state of terror is sheer nonsense," says Lieut.-Commander the Hon. J. M. Kenworthy, M.P., describing a month's stay in Russia in "Foreign Affairs" (quoted by the "Guardian.") So is the fable of a general persecution of religion.

"Moscow is the only capital in Europe in which there is no open and visible prostitution. I did not see any street-walkers in either Petrograd or Moscow, whereas as everyone knows, they throng certain main streets in London, Paris and Berlin. Nor did I see a drunken man the whole time I was in the country.

"I visited a dozen theatres, cabarets, music halls of all kinds, from the largest to the smallest, and never once saw anything vulgar or indecent. So far as I can judge, any child could be taken to any theatre in Moscow or Petrograd without fear of contamination. This cannot be said of either London, Paris or Berlin.

"On the other hand, gambling is permitted and even recognised by the Government, both on the racecourses and in the casinos. The Soviet Government heavily taxes all gambling transactions. The Communist leaders, when reproached with this, say they tried to stop gambling and found it was impossible to do so, and so they are reaping a harvest for the good of the State by taxation!"

How We Won the War.

The West African Diamond Syndicate has been registered with a capital of £500,000 in shares of £1 each, wires Reuter. The syndicate will take over the Akim Company's diamond interests, which in 1922 yielded 6,536 carats of diamonds.—The "Star."

The South African Glass House

LET HIM THAT IS WITHOUT SIN AMONG YOU CAST THE FIRST STONE.

It is still contended by "critics" with Social Democratic grudges to work off that the Soviet regime is an oligarchy dominating over the bulk of the population of Russia against its wishes. "Judgments" like these are still largely coloured by the judges' own economic and political points of view; and by the way, the states which have recently joined the Soviet Federation should also be good judges. But let us compare such hostile criticisms with the facts regarding our own South African society, as admitted by those who glory in it.

Here, for instance, is the libertarian philosophy of Mr. McKeurtan, of Durban, who recently formed a "Democratic" Party, we believe, but is now mentioned as a possible judge-president, and may therefore be expected to be on the whole "sound" for the ruling class and party (in accordance with "Democracy"—see below):—

"If the Indians are subjects of the Union THEY MUST SUBMIT to the million and a half whites who CONQUERED S. Africa alone."

He is supported by Mr. Cox, M.P.C., who says: "We must preserve white DOMINATION in South Africa."

And the Labour Party's provincial programme for Natal supports, "no extension of the Asiatic vote in European communities," as well as "suburban areas for the exclusive use of Asiatics" and "restriction of political, economic and industrial penetration of Asiatic life into European centres"—all this being clearly against the wishes of the subject Indian population.

"But the Indians are a minority," we may be told—although as against the whites in Natal they are a majority, and they have a population and Government oversea, to champion their rights, more or less, representing a much bigger majority. Well then, take the natives of S. Africa. They, without outside support, are an overwhelming majority. Yet no doubt it is, by the McKeurtans and Coxes and Natal Labourites, considered "unthinkable" that they should "dominate" S. Africa—although they are "the bulk of its population," and although, being bottom dogs, "sans everything," they have all the greater claim to be enfranchised. Yet they are completely dominated by the white oligarchy, again clearly against their wishes. The "Star" of the 11th instant says:—

"Under our pseudo democratic system of a colour-bar franchise, the interests of those sections of the community without any voice or vote are ruthlessly and cynically sacrificed if they happen to conflict with the interests of the enfranchised section. All political power is in the hands of one section, and naturally this power is used in furtherance of its economic interests and often against the interests of the other section. That is why any native and any Indian would prefer a benevolent despotism to the one-sided form of 'self-government' operating in this country."

The worst indictment of Soviet Russia was never so damning as this admission by the organ of the S. African ruling class itself.

And when we come to the British Empire as a whole we find the same thing on a world-wide basis. A handful of English capitalists exercise "domination" over hundreds of millions of subject workers and peasants, against their will and interest.

And the critics of Russia are just the most passionate supporters of this oligarchy. They are also the very people who can talk of nothing better, when they see "Bolshevist propaganda" making the headway that under such circumstances it inevitably must do, than "Bolshevik-wise" (according to them) to put all the agitators against a wall and shoot them.

"But this is a colour question, to which democracy is inapplicable. Among the whites, at least, we have elections, we have democracy, every man can vote according to his conscience, all are equal: whereas under the Bolsheviks opposition parties are suppressed, and the Red Army sees that only Communists are returned." The latter is not true, for there are numbers of village or provincial Soviets where the Communists are in a minority; and moreover, 'Bolshevik' equality is irrespective of colour, all shades of which are found in the Soviet federation. But supposing it were true, how are elections, even among whites only, run under our 'glorious' British Flag? In this country, for instance?

In Turffontein the other day an S.A.P. committee supported Major Hunt's breakaway from that party. Since and in consequence of that support, such pressure from 'Big Business' has been brought to bear upon the committee that, as we are informed, a number of them have been compelled to resign. The case of one was mentioned in the daily press: his employer, a 'Jannie Smuts' man,' gave the hint, and the committeeman actually joins the committee of Major Hunt's opponent! Another goes to the Corner House for his usual order—nothing doing until he resigns! Major Hunt himself, we heard, was threatened with foreclosure on a bond or something of the sort, besides being caricatured, for all the world as if he were a Bolshie, in the press. And so on: we all know how it works. That is capitalist democracy: that is the electoral liberty and equality we boast of, even within the ruling race and class, the world over. Mr. McKeurtan too knows the value of "loyalty" to the S.A.P.

Or take England. Here is a document issued by a Birmingham firm of employers on November 11, 1922:—

"GENERAL ELECTIONS.

"All men and)
all married women) employees
are hereby warned—

"That this firm could not carry on for a single year under a Labour Government.

"Large numbers of girls and young women for years and years have found good, regular employment here at a lucrative and always fair wage, and should remind their parents that this could not continue if they vote Labour."

Signed (name of firm).

"Democrats" and "Imperialists" should look to their own glass houses. They should set them in order before railing at "oligarchies" elsewhere. They will find that they are the very last people who should throw stones.

(See also the article in this issue on "Production and Distribution for Use." It is by failing to achieve that result that your "Democracy" most damningly proves itself a tinkling cymbal).

The Jubilee of Labour.

I heard men saying: Leave hope and praying,
All days shall be as all have been:
To-day and to-morrow bring fear and sorrow,
The never-ending toil between.
When earth was younger, 'midst toil and hunger,
In hope we strove, and our hands were strong;
Then great men led us, with words they fed us,
And bade us right the earthly wrong.

Go read in story their deeds of glory,
Their names amidst the nameless dead;
Turn then from lying, to us slow dying
In that good world to which they led:
Where fast and faster our iron master,
The thing we made, forever drives;
Bids us grind treasure and fashion pleasure,
For other hopes and other lives.

Let dead hearts tarry and trade and marry,
And trembling nurse their dreams of mirth:
While we the living our lives are giving
To bring the bright new world to birth.
Come, shoulder to shoulder, ere earth grows older!
The Cause spreads over land and sea:
Now the world shaketh and fear awaketh,
And joy at last for thee and me.

—William Morris.

An Example in Solidarity.

TROOPS AS STRIKE-BREAKERS.

Eight thousand coal miners in Cape Breton have struck work as a protest against the use of military force against the steel workers on strike in Sydney, Nova Scotia.

Two of the strike leaders have been arrested, probably in connection with a letter sent out to the miners, in which the latter were urged to cease work as a protest against the brutality of the police and troops in the course of the steel strike.

—Labour Press Service.

Charity Begins in the "Interior."

Pat Duncan says he is so strict about immigration lest an immigrant should squeak in and take a local (white) man's job. But if this is what he is so anxious about, let him get busy preventing the much more formidable cheap competition within the country.

Where Life is Cheap.

CASUALTIES ON THE INDUSTRIAL BATTLE-FIELD.

Twenty-three thousand killed and 3,000,000 injured in the "peaceful" industries of the United States during one year following the end of the world war is the record compiled by the U.S.A. Public Health Service.

In New York State alone, this official statement says, there were 51,084 accidents in industry; that means five out of every hundred persons employed were either killed or maimed at their work. Compared with the ghastly outcome, fighting with the armies in France during the great war was a much safer occupation.

The loss of life, limb or eyesight to the millions of workers directly involved does not measure the consequence of this butchery. To this must be added the thousands of families left destitute by the loss or permanent incapacity of breadwinners—none of whom are protected by war risk insurance or soldiers' bonus.

MAIN CAUSE OF POVERTY.

"How largely the matter of industrial accidents enters into the cause of our social ills I am not prepared to state definitely," one investigator for the health service says, "but I am bold to opine that it constitutes one of the largest causes of poverty and consequent dependency."

Accidents caused by careless workers are "comparatively few," the announcement states, adding that "industry as such is primarily responsible for many of the risks and dangers incident to it. . . . A study of accidents during a period of 18 months, made by the Industrial Commission of Wisconsin, showed that over 25 per cent. resulted from some flying object, 13 per cent. to falls, 10 per cent. to handling objects, 3 per cent. from hand tools, etc."

In the bulletin the health service explains how a poor safeguarding of employees by the owners of plants might reduce the toll of killed and injured workers.

—Rose Laddon, in "Seattle Union Record."

There is nothing better calculated to put upon a class a worthy and deeply moral stamp than the consciousness that it is destined to become the ruling one, that it is called upon to raise the underlying principle of its own rank to the dignity of the principle of the age, to make the idea that animates it the leading idea of the whole of society, and to remodel the latter in its own image.—Ferdinand Lassalle.

An Old Myth Revived.

A former British secret service agent, speaking recently before the Chamber of Commerce in Chicago, stated that the funds collected by the Friends of Soviet Russia for famine relief had in reality been used to feed and clothe the Red Army. He said that "more than $1,500,000 has been sent by this organisation to support the Red Army."

This man is a plain liar; no such amount has been sent to Russia by the Friends of Soviet Russia, and the Red Army—instead of using famine relief funds for its own purposes—has actually collected funds for the famine, and is at this moment supporting by voluntary contributions over 25,000 Russian orphans.

This attack is very similar to that launched in various New York papers a year ago; at that time a committee of prominent American public men exonerated the Friends of Soviet Russia completely from the accusation that the money collected by them was used for political propaganda in America.

Now Paxton Hibben, secretary of the American Committee for Relief of Russian Children, asserts that this new story is "as fantastic as the similar anti-Russian propaganda spread in this country by two other former British agents in Russia, Sir Paul Dukes and Captain Francis McCullagh."

Mr. Robert W. Dunn, of the American (Quaker) Mission in Russia, says on the same subject, "The Friends of Soviet Russia are doing great work: their accounts are well kept and carefully audited. The Red Army can take care of itself, and needs no American supplies. The present 'drive' to send tractors and agricultural instruments to Russia should enlist the support of all those who are sympathetic with the Russian Revolution."

The Press in America, while freely reprinting the original statement, has refused to print the denials.

—Friends of Soviet Russia Press Service.

Can Pound Notes Dig Coal?

Ye prattling fools, who talk as if your filthy lucre did the work,
And reared the buildings, manned the trains, and delved the coal in deepest murk—
Can dollars climb a ladder, say, or pull a lever, shift a gear?
Can dollars dig coal in a mine? Can dollars span that river there?
Ye fools, it is not gold that works, but sweating toilers 'neath the ban!
It is not dollars starve and quake—that lot falls to the working man!
This modern serf—come, view him close—oft robbed of brain, bereft of health;
This worse than slave—don't draw away—IS SOURCE OF ALL YOUR BOASTED WEALTH.
Then tell me not your dollars build, then tell me not your dollars span,
When I can see that all is done by just the COMMON WORKING MAN.

—George Henry Weiss.

Sheep's Clothing.

OUR TREACHOROUS FRIENDS OF THE BOURGEOIS PRESS.

Not for the first time the "Star," like the "Friend," of Bloemfontein, publishes an apparently liberal article, this time taking Mr. McKeurtan to task for his anti-Indian views. "We heard nothing about the Indian menace to Western civilisation" it rightly says, or implies, "while the Asiatics remained cheap hewers and drawers for "civilised" Westerns, who throve on their labour and were most reluctant to part with it. To talk of the Indians 'taking advantage of their lower standard' is gratuitous when they cannot reach a higher standard"—and when, we may add, it is the "western" masters who take advantage of it. The 'Westerns' still thrive on Indian labour and take advantage of its lower standard and keep it—shoot it if necessary—well down below even "kaffir levels," and, as the "Star" says, Mr. McKeurtan's "segregation" in no way means prohibition of employment of Indian labour outside the segregated area—that would never be tolerated for a moment in Natal, ever hungry for more and cheaper labour, where farms are priced according to the number of blacks living on them and so at the disposal of the farm owner as labourers. Finally, the "Star" breaks out into the candid confession of the pseudo democracy of this country quoted in this issue in the article "The S. African Glass House."

The "Manchester Guardian" often comes out with similar avowals such as the one we commented on last week about the real nature of the Anglo-French struggle over the Ruhr.

Let us beware of these Greeks even when they bring gifts. Liberalism to-day is non-existent as a force: it is now only a cloak behind which the perpetrators of atrocities carry on their machinations. Gen. Smuts releases 28 strike prisoners before their time. Who trusts him the more for that? He wants to curry favour in order that with it he may become strong enough to commit another and a worse atrocity—and then he will be liberal again. Similarly the ruling class organs are turned over to editors who perhaps sincerely believed themselves liberals in the same spirit as war measures involving the welfare of the workers were entrusted in England to labour leaders who may have begun by thinking themselves genuine champions of the working class, but were eventually called upon to do work dirtier than their employers directly dared to do—and usually they did it.

The "Friend," that critic of the Chamber of Mines last year: what side did it take when it really was a question of taking sides? Sheltering behind the Brace Commission, it whitewashed the Chamber. The "Friend" and the "Star," these "sympathisers" with the natives, who are so fond of pointing out the iniquity to the native of the colour bar, the folly of trade union colour prejudice, and the proletarian character of the native worker—they play on these half truths only to divide white from black labour movements, and when it comes to "Bolshevism" which seeks to agitate and organise both on the single class basis, they are with Merriman (another posing "friend" of the coloured man), Truter and the Fascists every time. The "Star" criticises those who thrive on cheap labour and whine for segregation, but let us Communists get busy among the coolies with a demand for higher wages, and the "Star will scream louder than McKeurtan himself. The "Star" talks piously of "pseudo democracy," but of course the remedy is not a "benevolent despotism," it is a native and Indian franchise. When is the "Star" going to come out honestly in support of that? The Corner House will watch it!

The "Star" talks ingratiatingly about the native workers because it is essential to the Corner House labour supply to "kid" them as long as possible that, few as the natives' friends are, they are at any rate not to be found at all in the ranks of the labour movement, but only among the parsons, professors, 'philanthropists' and government officials who cling like barnacles to the bottom of the capitalist craft and form "Joint Councils"—closed to Communists—with them. It warns its deluded readers to confide in it, the better to kill them with an unexpected icy blast at the proper time. "It's Sammy this and Jim Fish that" when sympathy costs nothing and has no real effect; but it's "discipline first," "disloyalty must be crushed," "death to sedition" when it is taken at its word, and "incidents" arise at the Village Deep, Port Elizabeth, Bulhoek or S.W.A.—whatever its "diplomatic" criticisms after the event when it no longer matters. Similarly, the German (and British) bourgeoisie is most sympathetic with the starvation of the German people when they are needed to resist French aggression: but let them seize bread, and quick as lightning the German bourgeoisie is behind the guns; the streets are red with blood, and Britain chuckles. What have the "Friend" or the "Star" ever done to raise the proletarian and peasant masses of this country, and to destroy the dictatorship of the exploiting caste that holds them down? As little as the "Manchester Guardian" has done or will do to overthrow the gangs of robbers, English or French, whose race to seize Germany it has exposed. The Communists, who alone strike at the root of the trouble, are the objects of these organs' fiercest hatred—and are hated just because they strike at the root of the trouble

These "liberal arguments" are always trotted out in support of what, under capitalism, are lost causes. When Indian segregation is already decided upon by the Government, the "Star" is turned on to heave a cheap sigh about it; it can afford this, it makes no difference to anyone, but it may turn the edge of Indian resentment. The same after Bulhoek and the bombing of the Bondelswarts.

Indians and Natives of S. Africa, these are the tactics of provocateurs. Beware of them!

The Lie Further Exposed.

In marked contrast to the recent hysterical shrieks of the churches at the alleged persecution of religion in Soviet Russia stand the pronouncements of a New York parson, the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, of the Community Church, New York, who recently visited Russia. In the New York "Nation" of May 9th last, he described the conditions as he found them. Comparing Krasnitsky and the "Living Church" movement in Russia with Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation, Holmes denies that the Soviets are persecuting any religion or church. "The upheaval now going on," he says, "is simply the modernising of the so-called orthodox church of the Tzars, which is the greatest compound of ignorance, superstition and corruption that the world has ever known. The changes are taking place unofficially, with no interferences, but rather indifference on the part of the Government. In separating Church from State, however, the Government has punished intrigue by church officials, as in the case of Vicar-General Budkiewitz." Mr. Holmes asserts that he found few evidences of confiscation of church property, but cites several instances of its practice under the Tsars. "True religion is coming to its own in Russia," he concludes. "The days of darkness are drawing to a close."

Homes and Heroes.

In the metropolis of a great Empire you have 3,000,000 people living under slum conditions.

A report compiled by Church of England organisations says: "The elder people are resigned. They are broken-spirited. The young people are sullen, disaffected, rebellious and revolting against industrial conditions, and are resolved that they will not tamely submit to them."

In the old days people blamed parties; now they blame systems.

The wages of the working classes have gone down by £540,000,000 per annum in the last two years.

—Lloyd George.

Recently, in a letter to the "Daily Herald," James O'Grady, as president of the International of General Workers, urged the different Trade Union International Federations to follow the lead of the International Transport Workers' Federation and join with the R.I.L.U. in common action against war and Fascism.

"It is expected that Conradi will be brought to trial in September for the murder of Vorowsky." Thus the "Star." Well founded reports from Switzerland, on the contrary, indicate that the Lausanne authorities, wishing to avoid a "disagreeable case," have decided to give Conradi an opportunity to escape before judgment is pronounced, thus openly ranking him with the assassins of Liebknecht, Rosa Luxembourg and Jaures.

The World's White Terror.

A Calendar of Capitalist Crime.

GERMANY.—Not reckoning recent events in the Ruhr, etc., notwithstanding about 2,500 conditional pardons, there were recently about 5,000 POLITICAL PRISONERS still in the German penitentiaries and prisons. The sentences imposed comprise altogether several thousand years.

Among other outrages are mentioned the ASSASINATION OF A YOUNG COMMUNIST by the Berlin special police force, a DEATH SENTENCE ON COMRADE KARUSEIT for presiding over a revolutionary tribunal in the Rhine-land during the Kapp-Putsch, frequent suppressions of our press, Fascist attacks on our papers, arrests of twenty young communists in Rhineland-Ruhr.

FRANCE.—25 OF THE MOST ACTIVE COMRADES have been sent to prison as a consequence of the Ruhr offensive. The number of active and reserve soldiers undergoing disciplinary punishment cannot be ascertained. Special mention must be made of the fact that police and military are being used against strikers (in Le Havre (four killed), Marseilles).

ITALY.—ABOUT SIX THOUSAND WORKERS. AMONG THEM SEVENTY WELL-KNOWN COMMUNISTS, ARRESTED, and also nearly all the editors of our papers. The Y.C.L. is also subject to violent persecution. Two-thirds of its active members are in prison. In Turin, thirty-two young communist Officials were assassinated in the course of two nights. Dissolution of trade unions, destruction of peoples' palaces and newspaper offices, prevention of public elections.

SPAIN.—For the last three years most abominable persecutions of all revolutionary organisations. Thousands of people in the prisons. Recently THREE HUNDRED MORE ARRESTS, 150 ALREADY SENTENCED to long terms of imprisonment. Twenty comrades accused in connection with the Dato assasination. Still many hundreds in prison owing to Morocco war.

BELGIUM.—Four or five hundred prisoners. Recently 17 leading communists arrested. Virulent persecution of communists owing to Ruhr propaganda.

LITHUANIA.—Police terrorism, mass arrests, election terrorism, Jewish pogroms, two death sentences commuted to lifelong imprisonment, one death in prison. In Kovno 80 POLITICAL PRISONERS. Party illegal.

LATVIA.—Since last election eight hundred workers arrested, two hundred of whom are still in prison. 214 exchanged into Russia. During the last six months over one hundred youths arrested, 32 exchanged into Russia. Party illegal.

ESTHONIA.—Party illegal. Terrorism in full force. The young communist Kreuks assassinated. Kingisepp and another comrade shot. Out of 151 communist candidates and six deputies only two communist candidates free, all others in exile or prison.

FINLAND.—Still 1,200 political prisoners. White terror.

POLAND.—2,090 in prison. Between 1/12/22 and 1/4/23 prosecuted, 193; sentenced, 111; acquitted, 82. Penalties 285 years forced labour and incarceration in a fortress. Mass arrests amounting to thousands in all border regions; dissolution of trade unions.

DENMARK.—Long terms of imprisonment for two comrades.

NORWAY.—Political trial pending against two Y.C. leaders.

IRELAND.—About twelve members of the party in prison for being members of the Irish Republican Army.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.—Fascism in its beginning stages, emergency legislation against C.P.

HUNGARY.—Official figures of the Horthy Government:—

Hitherto altogether seventy thousand in prisons, ten thousand executed, recent cases not known, 45,000 emigrants. Arrests continue.

ROUMANIA.—Mass trials of hundreds, prisons full to overflowing. Police terrorism against Party and Youth. Party illegal.

BULGARIA.—Dissolution of trade unions and Y.C.L.'s. White terror; 4 death sentences 82 imprisonments this week.

GREECE.—White terror.

TURKEY.—Persecution of communists.

U.S.A.—Cruel persecution by Courts of Justice. Klu-Klux-Klan. 53 members of the I.W.W. in prison. Recently 11 more communists again arrested for membership of the C.P. and propaganda. The workman Gregor lynched. The trial of Foster and twenty-one comrades. All great strikes followed by mass arrests amounting to many thousands. In North Yakima and Oregon 24 workers lynched.

CANADA.—After Edmond strike 150 workers in prison.

MEXICO.—Long terms of imprisonment for 27 women and 50 men comrades, many of whom are prominent workers.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Everywhere persecutions of communists, syndicalists and anarchists.

AUSTRALIA.—Six workers sent to prison since the Fourth Congress for strike activities.

INDIA.—25,000 in prison for participation in nationalist propaganda. Tens of thousands of rebellious peasants and revolutionary workers in gaol. Several hundred death sentences.

CHINA.—A young comrade was recently torn to pieces, 7 arrested. Frequent application of bastinadoes to numerous rebels as in India.

JAPAN.—Death sentences on communists. Persecutions in Courts of Justice.

S. AFRICA.—We know the figures, which run the worst records elsewhere pretty close, and, as regards deaths and death sentences of white men, are unequalled.

The Law of Liberty.

Here are a few extracts from our regular weekly budget from the land of the statue of liberty, to which Basutos and others have been rendering homage on the occasion of President Harding's death:

CHICAGO.—The hunting season is now open on Agricultural Workers. Thirty-seven members of Agricultural Workers' Industrial Union 110 I.W.W. have been arrested at Hutchinson, Kansas, 11 at Carthage, Mo. Another group were seized and badly beaten at McFarland, Kansas. Four have been arrested at Salina, Kansas; three at Port Arthur, Texas. Sixty are in jail at Enid, Oklahoma.

Most of these men are charged with "vagrancy". However, such statutes as that of Kansas impose 12-month sentences on vagrancy charges. Other States secure this result by setting the cases for hearing during the winter terms of Court.

DEFEATING THE ENDS OF JUSTICE.

SACRAMENTO.—Seven witnesses, subpoenaed from outside the county by the defence, have been arrested on charges of criminal syndicalism, on the ground that by so appearing they have "committed a crime in the presence of the district attorney." This action deprives the defendants of all witnesses on their side.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Ten "witnesses" were subpoenaed for the defence after the judge had refused to admit testimony given by other than members of the I.W.W. After each witness had qualified by admitting his membership, Judge Glen ordered his arrest, on the ground that "a crime had been committed in the presence of the district attorney."

SAN FRANCISCO.—Thirty-four political prisoners held in San Quentin penitentiary on criminal syndicalism convictions have gone on "strike" on behalf of William Flannagan, thrown into the "hole" for refusing to work longer in the jute mill. Flannagan, who is of frail physique, was unable to hold the pace demanded by mill guards.

On hearing of his punishment, thirty-four other prisoners laid down their work and demanded to be punished with him. All were placed in solitary confinement.

WHO DESTROYS THE HOME:

SAN PEDRO, Calif.—On the ground that "Father and daughter are I.W.W. strikers," and therefore unfit to have the care of children, local police took four tots from their father, a Mexican worker named Ybarra, and turned them over to the juvenile court. Notice has been served on Ybarra to show cause why they should not be taken from him forever.

Ybarra's wife has been dead for three years. An 18-year old daughter cares for the children. The father has worked steadily up to the time of the strike, and the children were well fed and clothed. Three were taken from school, and a smaller one from home.

"CIVILISATION."

The powerful church federation of Los Angeles has moved to investigate the charges of inhuman treatment of strikers in the Los Angeles and San Pedro jails. Chief of Police Oaks is personally charged with beating Michael Flaherty and Charles Begel. Flaherty was later beaten into insensibility in a solitary cell. Rev. Fred R. Wedge, a Congregationalist minister, swears that he was arrested, beaten and kicked by a desk sergeant, and thrown into a tank into which 95 other men were jammed. The windows were then closed, and steam turned on.

Relatives of Paul Bergen, who died as the result of conditions in the Los Angeles stockade, will file damage suits against the city.

"FREE LABOUR."

FARGO, N.D.—State's Attorney H. F. Horner announces that he intends to use the provision of the North Dakota constitution prohibiting hindering men from obtaining employment to prevent labour organisation, and as a "protection to the employers" On this ground, William Edwards, Lee Wosk and Fred Berg have been arrested here. The first two charged with vagrancy and the third with having liquor in his possession!

Mr. Horner declares that he will not permit labour organisers to induce men to leave employment on farms or other places, either permanently or on strike, and that any attempt to prevent men seeking employment at places where strikes have been declared will be considered a violation of the statute.

ST. CLAIRSVILLE, Ohio.—John Alfred, organiser for Mine Workers' Industrial Union, was arrested while attempting to speak from the steps of a hall, after Sheriff Dunfee, of Belmont County, had ordered him not to speak in any public meeting on any matters concerning the I.W.W. Sheriff Dunfee has ordered all owners of halls in Bannock and Lafferty to close them to meetings of miners.

Books in Stock.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

We make no apology for bringing our literature catalogue once more before our readers, and asking them to study it and keep it for further reference. Newspaper stuff is as it were only tea-shop fare: the "workers' ordinary" should consist of the more solid meat contained in the classical and modern publications of the world-movement. Send cash with order to Box 4179, or call at No. 4 Trades Hall, Johannesburg, and let us recommend you what to read.

DESLINIERES—	
Coming of Socialism	1 0
R. P. DUTT—	
The Two Internationals	2 0
H. GORTER—	
The World Revolution	1 3
R. HILFERDING—	
Boehm-Bawerk's Criticism of Marx ...	2 0
D. IVON JONES—	
Communism in South Africa	1 0
BELA KUN—	
Revolutionary Essays	0 9
LENIN—	
The Collapse of the Second International	1 6
"Left Wing" Communism: An Infantile Disorder	2 6
The Proletarian Revolution	2 6
A. LOSOVSKY—	
International Council of Trade and Industrial Unions	1 0
R. MARCHAND—	
Why I Support Bolshevism	1 0
KARL MARX—	
The Civil War in France	1 6
MARX & ENGELS—	
Communist Manifesto	1 0
V. P. MILUTIN—	
The Economic Organisation of Soviet Russia	1 3
D. MONTEFIORE—	
The People's Calendar	1 6
Report of the British Labour Delegation to Russia	3 6
Report of the Labour Commission to Ireland	2 6
C. H. SCHMITT—	
The Hungarian Revolution	1 0
Socialist Dialogues and Recitations	2 0
Song Book, 37 Songs with Music	1 3
Trade Unionism in Soviet Russia	2 0
WILKINSON, ALDERMAN W. C. (J.P.)—	
The Progress of Poverty in England ...	1 3
NOTE.—O/S means out of stock, but on order.	
A. LABRIOLA—	
Essays on the M.C. of History	6 6
Socialism and Philosophy	6 6
PAUL LAFARGUE—	
Evolution of Property	2 6
The Right to be Lazy	3 6
Social and Philosophical Studies	3 6
SIR RAY LANKESTER—	
Science from an Easy Chair	3 0
GEO. LANSBURY—	
What I Saw in Russia	5 6
A. M. LEWIS—	
Art of Lecturing	3 6
KARL LIEBKNECHT—	
Militarism and Anti-Militarism	2 0
WM. LIEBKNECHT—	
Memories of Karl Marx	3 6
LISSAGARY—	
History of the Commune of 1871	6 0
JACK LONDON—	
Burning Daylight	2 6
The Iron Heel	2 6
Martin Eden	3 0 & 5 0
People of the Abyss	3 6
Revolution	2 6
The Strength of the Strong	2 0
Valley of the Moon	3 6 & 5 0
War of the Classes	2 6
White Fang	3 0
A. LORIA—	
Karl Marx	3 0
PATRICK MACGILL—	
Children of the Dead End	4 6
The Rat Pit	7 0
COL. MALONE—	
The Russian Republic	3 0
KARL MARX—	
Capital, Vol. I. 12/-, II. o/s, and III.	16 6
Critique of Political Economy	6 6
Eighteenth Brumaire	3 6
The Poverty of Philosophy	6 6
Revolution and Counter-Revolution	2 6
CLARENCE MEILY—	
Puritanism	3 6
W. MELLOR—	
Direct Action	5 6
E. D. MOREL—	
Africa and the Peace of Europe	3 0
The Black Man's Burden	4 0
Red Rubber	6 0
Ten Years of Secret Diplomacy	4 6
LEWIS MORGAN—	
Ancient Society	7 6
W. MORRIS—	
A Dream of John Ball	4 0
Hopes and Fears for Art ... ... (Leather)	6 0
(Cloth)	4 0
News from Nowhere	4 0
Poems by the Way, o/s	4 6
Signs of Change	7 0
A. S. [illegible]—	
A [illegible]'s Log ... ... (on order)	6 0
[illegible] Dismissed ... ... (on order)	6 0
[illegible] Doubt ... ... (on order)	6 0
[illegible] PAUL—	
[illegible]ution	3 0
... ...	5 6
[illegible] Society	3 0

A Gold Bugs' Banquet.

The moneybugs of the Cape met in bibulous conclave recently to do honour to one of their number, who had been President of the Capetown Chamber of Commerce for a period of two years.

Mr. Duff (presiding) spoke of the shortage of commercial representation in our legislature. The largest Chamber of Commerce in South Africa, he felt they could say that they were regarded as something of a force in matters commercial. Operating as they did in the parliamentary capital, they were in CONSTANT TOUCH with the Government and Parliament for half the year—(who said that money lords did not control?)—and he would like to acknowledge the VERY FRIENDLY WAY in which the Government had from time to time requisitioned the advice of the Chamber. (Of course, if Jagger wanted to know how relief workers could manage on 4/6 per day he would no doubt seek the advice of the Chamber of Commerce, and when he decided to discharge thousands of railwaymen he had no doubt been reassured by congratulations from the moneybugs of the Chamber.)

Mr. Duff continued: "There is no lobbying with us; we are always ready to go to the fountain head through the proper channels." We don't like to disagree with Mr. Duff, but we submit that instead of Mahomet going to the mountain the opposite was the case, that evening at least, as Mr. Jagger and other members of the Government were there to receive instructions from this august body of money lords.

Mr. Jagger next spoke. "The influence of the Chamber, he claimed, was as high to-day as ever. Perhaps the only criticism he would offer was that there had been during the last two years too much prodding of the Minister of Railways. Mr. Rowe had said on a former occasion that the ex-

Excuse our interruption, but have we had your Sub. yet?

pense of working this Government of ours was too heavy. It was more than the country could afford, and rigid economy was required. He would give them a few facts. He pointed out that the taxation by the Government and Provincial Administration for 1913 amounted to £10,000,000, whereas in 1922 it was £21,000,000."

Here at last we have the cause of the bother. If the Chamber of Commerce can only "get at" the Government enough, they are hoping to reduce the taxation to its former level, thus saving £11,000,000 to the financial magnates of this country. Needless to say, Mr. Jagger is more likely to support the wishes of the 260 members of the Chamber of Commerce than those of the 120,000 poor whites or the thousands of starving men, women and children, and he is prepared along with other Ministers to sack fifty per cent. of Government servants in order to satisfy the cravings of his money lords.

Experience gained during the late war seems to indicate that (until we abolish the present pernicious system) the higher the taxation the better is the position of the worker. Here then we have something to fight for: Keep the wealthy class at it, compel them to find money whenever possible; they rob the worker, make them disgorge the plunder, every agitator should be up and doing, and if we can increase the £21,000,000 to £41,000,000—well, so much the better.

The ruling class is a robber class. Let us all pull together and get rid of it.

W. G.

R. W. POSTGATE—	
The Bolshevik Theory	9 0
The Workers' International	3 0
Revolution	12 6
M. PH. PRICE—	
My Reminiscences of the Russian Revolution	22 0
War and Revolution in Asiatic Russia ...	10 6
An Outline of Psychology	3 6
A. RANSOME—	
The Crisis in Russia	6 0
Six Weeks in Russia	3 0
WINWOOD READ—	
Martyrdom of Man, o/s	9 6
J. T. ROGERS—	
The Economic Interpretation of History ...	11 6
Six Centuries of Work and Wages	8 6
C. E. RUSSELL—	
The Story of Wendell Phillips	3 6
A. M. SIMONS—	
The Class Struggle in America	3 6
UPTON SINCLAIR—	
The Brass Check	4 6
Jimmy Higgins	3 0
King Coal	2 6
The Spy	4 6
Profits of Religion	3 6
LEONARD WOOLF—	
Empire and Commerce in Africa	25 0
NOAH ABLETT—	
Easy Outlines of Economics	2 0
C. BANG—	
Crises in European History	1 0
N. BUCHARIN—	
Programme of the World Revolution ...	1 6
Z. KAHAN-COATES—	
The Literary Work of Frederick Engels	2 0
G. DAGGER—	
Increased Production	1 0
D. DE LEON—	
As to Politics	1 0
Bergers' Hit and Misses	1 0
De Leon and Parry Debate	1 0
[illegible] Questions	1 6
[illegible] and the High Cost of Living ...	1 0
[illegible] on the Gridiron	0 6
Woman's Suffrage	0 9

Cape Unemployed Committee.

ITS RECENT WORK.

The above committee is composed of representatives of Labour Branches, Communist Branches, Ratepayers' Associations, Inter-Racial League, Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union, as well as Relief Workers and Unemployed, and includes one or two ladies.

It is formed around the slogan "Work or Maintenance for all men and women at full rates."

The work of the committee is of such a nature that it comes into contact with the class struggle at every turn.

This is no imaginary struggle, it is the real solid thing.

The rateable value of the property of Cape Town at the last valuation was £26,000,000. The new valuation increases this to nearer £50,000,000.

The local Chamber of Commerce has a membership of 260.

The City Council numbers 42.

We can safely assume that 26 of the Councillors represent the £26,000,000 or the 260 members of the Chamber of Commerce.

Any increase in taxation introduced must of necessity be paid by the people who own the property. This fact can easily be seen when the question of feeding the Unemployed is being considered at the Council meetings, only one, Councillor Ash, being favourable to such expenditure.

The responsibility even of feeding the aged and sick is forced by this gang of money bugs upon a charity crowd, "The Board of Aid."

It is thus easily seen that the class war is fought out in the City Council; sometimes consciously and sometimes unconsciously; (a Communist would be class conscious and would know what the fight was about).

The Committee has made great progress in at least the matter of organisation, although it is true that some of us realise that organisation is not everything, when we see the weakness of Trade Unionism, despite organisation.

The Committee organised the unemployed and then, when the powers that be thought that they had nobbled them, simply completed the organisation and formed them into a Union.

This Union is open to all workers employed or unemployed who are not eligible for any other Union. The fee is only 6d. monthly, and if unemployed, 6d. entrance fee and no further payment until employed.

Up to writing we have enrolled about 500 and there is little doubt that this number will be doubled. As a matter of fact, we simply cannot make the Union cards out fast enough, the men are so anxious.

An attack was made on the 31st July on the Chamber of Commerce's Citadel — "The City Council." About 300 relief workers stormed the gallery to support Mr. Ash, who presented a petition on behalf of 900 men on the different works. Their presence in the gallery had a remarkable psychological effect on the Councillors, who actually fell over each other in their efforts to support Mr. Ash's motion for "A Committee to be formed."

(To be continued.)

Polish Terror Renewed.

WHITE GUARD ATROCITIES PLANNED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

A fresh campaign of outrage and oppression has been inaugurated by the new Witos-Seyda Government in Poland, which, through the Minister of Home Affairs, has instigated White Guard elements to acts of violence against the workers (says the Workers Esperanto News Service).

Political prisoners are inhumanly tortured and beaten, one victim, Pakulski, being so severely ill-treated while actually on his way to trial that on his arrival the judge at once ordered his removal in an ambulance.

Men and women belonging to the Proletarian Union were wounded in the street by White Guards at Lodz, Radow, Vilna, and elsewhere, while Trade Union papers have been suppressed.

The Government, by means of secret circulars to its agents, has ordered an intensification of the terror.

"Emigrate, Emigrate!"

In the "St. Andrew's Citizen" we get this ice-cooler for the emigration heat from a St. Andrean who emigrated last year to Australia:—Unemployment here is much greater in proportion to the population than it is at home. Last Christmas there were 15,000 in Sydney alone unemployed. I was on the hunt for a job for a long time, but eventually met a very decent Australian who offered me a berth. I accepted it and have kept it. The propaganda Australia House send out is a fraud, and very cruel to those who are deceived by it. I was told by Australia House that all the cities were short of men for all sorts of berths from professional men down to labourers. When I got there I was told in an off-hand way, 'Oh, yes, we can put you with a small farmer up country—of course, just for your keep; and you will find 3 a.m. to midnight rather hard at first, but you'll get used to it." Now, I am not romancing; that is what I got offered me—work which the local man won't have at any price."

From the "New York American" we learn that the Grand Duke Alexander, brother of the late Czar of Russia, proposes to form a Union of Souls to Save the World.—("Forward.").

We have a long list of members to propose, including General Smuts, the Editor and also musical critic of the "Sunday Times," T.B.B., Parson Glyndwr Davies, the Editor of "The Cape," and Mr. Merriman.

COMMUNIST PARTY NOTES.

JOHANNESBURG.

The debates for the remainder of August are as follows:

Wednesday, August 22.—C. F. Glass: "Ethics and the Class Struggle."

Wednesday, August 29.—Mrs. Bunting: "Passive and Active Resistance."

* * *

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY SOCIAL.

The Party will celebrate the eighth anniversary of the formation of the International Socialist League and launching of the "International" newspaper (on 10th September, 1915) with a Social and Dance at the Selborne Hall, Johannesburg, on Saturday, September 8th, from 8 to 12. Tickets: Double 5s., single 3s. A fine programme is being arranged.

* * *

THIS PAPER.

The question of reducing the price of the "International" to 1d. (annual subscription 5s.) and altering the shape to that which obtained up to 1920 (8 pp., each half the size of the present pages) has been canvassed by branches of the party, and considerable difference of opinion exists on the subject. The Press Committee would welcome expressions of opinion from individual readers on the effect of such a change. It is obvious that one condition of the change is a greatly increased circulation.

* * *

NEW LITERATURE ON SALE.

The Fourth Congress of the Communist International is reported in a most interesting volume by the British Section, price 2s. This should be supplemented by the text of the "theses" and resolutions adopted by the Congress, price 1s. 3d. Together, these booklets furnish a close insight into Communist world tactics.

Release the Prisoners.

On Sunday the Rand unemployed committee held a meeting in the Carlton Theatre, in order to give a chance to the released men to inaugurate an agitation for the release of their comrades. The meeting was well attended by all except—the released prisoners. Comrade Harry Haynes took the chair, and rousing speeches were made by Coms. Snowden, Woudsberg and Wordingham.

A Strike Prisoners' release committee, with delegates from all unions, has been formed to take up the matter of the nine men still in Pretoria gaol. So far the Labour Party has sent no delegate and, as we cannot find any secretary or office in Johannesburg, will anyone concerned please note that Labour Party delegates are asked for.

H.W.H.

Two inscriptions from a captured gun in Bedford, showing the "international" spirit of Capitalism:—On a brass plate there is: "Captured by the Bedfords at Gaza from the Turks." On the back of the gun, in much bigger letters: "Made by Sir George Armstrong, Whitworth and Company."

Notice is hereby given that the business known as the Pavilion Bioscope Cafe, and carried on at Store Bros. Buildings, Johannesburg, has been sold and transferred by the Assignee in the Estate of Magdalene Bresler to and on behalf of Samuel Woolfson as and from the 25th day of August, 1923.—J. T. WINDRAM, Assignee, Asher's Buildings, Johannesburg. 10-17-24

Comrade SAM BARLIN

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