

Dear Barlow & all the Comrades,

Thank you for sending me such a long letter, I feel

I want again to thank you all for the kindness you shared out to me. Sometimes a longing comes for the feeling of rest which I possessed when in your beautiful land.

I know you have struggles to get through, but after those who work must struggle against the powers that be as well as sometimes fight against ones own. As a rule we dont get much help out of fighting our own & often I feel it would be best to

leave alone the harsh criticism, believing as of old, that "the soft answer turneth away wrath". Any way the latter is a truim which we aggressive socialist often forget to the injury of the movement.

You see in destroying those whom we find fault with or differ in judgment, we destroy the movement, its heroic but it is not fighting, & we show a lamentable discretion, or indiscretion shall I say, which the enemy takes good care to use against us at time when we most need assistance.

I am real sorry to learn about the breakup of the federation as it can only mean estrangement all round, the only people to benefit being the "Fat man" who gets there every ti me of asking. Fergusson & Sleath are not so bad as they are made out to be, & although one regrets their attitude, one has more to regret about the method of discussing their delinquencies: However we are for ever pulling down with our

hate that which we built in love. 'Some day we shall get a number of strong men & women who will swear to love each other, come weal or woe, come success or failure, come goodness or badness to ourselves morally, recognising that although judgments may be condemned, we will never lose the love of comrades, or embitter by harsh word those who are in the great fraternxity. But then we want noble men & women above the ordinary judging of right & wrong, do you know our cause would grow as su re as the trees of the bush & Forest grows, almost invisibly, but in ever increasing quantity until the barren ground is turned into the forest. We are making some

headway with our cause so that you may be sure we are very jubilant about it. The S.D.F. seems to have taken a new lease of life & is doing very well indeed. We find so much consternation that we are afraid in matters political, we shall not be able to shoft the British bulldog, who is as stupid as a bullock, or a ~~hating~~ battery mule. But for all that we are clearing the ground of a deal of cant. Hardis has a very queer notion of what should be our course of conduct, & has stated

very silly things - in ignorance of course; but he is most most guilty in not trying to authenticate his statements. As a matter of fact he does some very silly

very silly things - in ignorance of course; but he is most most guilty in not trying to authenticate his statements. As a matter of fact he does some very silly things, or his henchmen do them for him. The latest is that he states I was allowed daily expense when away, as a matter of fact I should have had them, but for the publishing of a statement that I should be staying in Australia permanently. Our Dockers naturally thought that it must be so, because a known friend publishes the statement. But I am here, have been able to clear about 340£ of debt out of 6500£, nearly three hundred of it being due to a legal case the union ought to have

paid themselves. But I shall arrive sometime or another. I feel though that I should just like to be in the antipodes just now as we have the season of fogs on us with all the attendant discomforts. England of fog is a dreary place to live in & I sigh for the warm breezes of the south, especially as the asthma is so bad just now. But the work is here & you would feel as I feel that we ought to stay & do our duty. Although is only one among a number of men who are doing all they can to make the earth better to live upon, yet I feel all the time that I have special privileges in being able to fight on different lines to most, being the same free lance as of old. The movement here does want those who are always ready to fight & is saying fight, fight all the time. I know a great many of those who

who have been made by fight s are often those who deprecate the continuence of the methods which landed them into a safe seat. I should liked to have seen Holman whom I should think wants a pal with him who will be aggressive, but courteous all the time. I know the best thinkers among you have that idea, but it is a hard fight to be alone all the time. In places such as our friend is there is always a ~~temptation~~ temptation to feel "whats the use of fighting along". Especially if one has the milk of kindness badly overstocked. We want haters as well as heroic fighters. I know there are many reasons to be urged about the matter, & that in old days undying hates have undone conquering armies in occupation. But someday we shall have all the love as well as the comradeship. Now ~~xxxx~~ you will be glad to find me so cheerful, for I have had a lot of work to do. We have pulled up ~~ten~~ 10,000 new members since my return & the work has been amply repaid.

Our contributions are more than doubled to. Little Tom Mc Carthy's death has been a blow to us all, but we shall have to go on fighting. Now Tom was a fighter all the time & was always as ready to fight friend & love him all the time as well. Will you ask the comrades to drop me a line. Mayday owes me a letter. She is one of those with the big heart who will always be true to her friendships. I met so many good folk out in your lovely land that really I dont know what to do without them sometimes. It is only because I have a lot of work to do, that I am not able to get to the grumps. It is just as well to, for I belong to those people who think too damn much. I only hope you will hold out the hand of fellowship to those who want to be with you in the work you have in hand.

You are going for dear old Sam Smith I see, well he is'nt an angel, & is too much Scotch to be very amenable, but he wants to do right all the time I feel assured. However give a cuddle to all the pals who are wanting the same, & reserve a supple for those who might want a second dose of the same.

I will write you a monthly letter about things in general.

Yours sincerely,

