SABOTAGE:--The Conscious withdrawal of working-class Efficiency.

DIRECT ACTION

ORGANISATION FOR EDUCATION

VOL 2 NO. 38. Registered at G.P.O, Sydney. SYDNEY, OCTOBER 1, 1915. ONE PENNY

Why we are Slaves.

In the days of chattel-slavery the whip of the slave-driver, torture, and imprisonment were the means used to keep the slaves in subjection. But with the rise of Capitalism these methods gave way to the more refined, but equally effective, whip of starvation and want. These are the days of so-called "democracy," "freedom," and the "nobility of Labor" and other hypocritical cries designed to hide from us the fact that we are to-day the slaves of a ruling class more cruel and avaricious than any which has gone before it.

The feudal lords derived their power from the ownership of soil, and they allowed their slaves to till it only on conditions dictated by their masters. These masters were overthrown, only to be followed by others, the capitalists, but the slaves believed and unfortunately still believe that they achieved their freedom with the defeat of the aristocracy. This illusion, nourished and strengthened by all the powers of capitalism, is responsible for much of the apathy and spiritlessness of the workers.

The power of capitalism lies in the ownership of the mines, factories, workshops, and the machines necessary to produce from the raw materials the luxuries and necessities of existence. But the manufacture of these commodities requires one thing more, namely, labor, without which the factories, workshops and machines are useless, it is the working class, and they alone, who possess the wealth-creating labor power. To obtain the food, clothing, and shelter necessary to life the worker is compelled to sell his labor to an employing class for a wage which is determined by the conditions of the labor market and the strength of his organisation, to demand and enforce the demand for better wages.

We are slaves because we are dependent for existence upon the sale of our labor to another class. If they refuse to employ us or we refuse to work, then we must starve even though the warehouses and stores are full to overflowing. We may leave one master and go to another, but we are still slaves, not of individuals, but of a class, and until we realise this fact we cannot hope to free ourselves from the incubus of wage slavery.

Though the lot of the chattel slave was a terrible one, he was always assured, except, of course, in times of famine of sufficient food, clothing and shelter to enable him to continue producing. The wage-slave, on the other hand, starves not when food is scarce, but when it is most plentiful. When the markets are glutted and the store-houses are full, then the workers who have produced all these commodities are not needed; they must struggle on as best they can until there is once more a demand for their labor.

The working class are not free and never have been since the days of primitive communism. If we want liberty we must fight for it and fight hard. The employing class, growing ever stronger and richer as the result of our toil, will fight, have always fought tooth and nail, to maintain their privileges. If we would be free then we ourselves must strike the blow.

Labor produces all things; without it the earth and all it contains is useless; the factories in which we wear out our lives in constant toil, the machines which are ever displacing more and more workers would stop, would, in fact, never have been built. This is our power, the organised power of a class united in the most powerful organisation possible to conceive of at the present time, Industrial Unionism, the One Big Union, which has been advocated by the I.W.W. since its inception, and is every day gaining new strength for the last great fight for liberty and justice.

FRANK CALLANAN.

The Coming Struggle.

NAVAL BASE, VICTORIA.

At the invitation of some live wires at Crib Point, fellow-worker Gordon Napier and myself visited their camp last week-end. A good crowd turned up, and we entertained and amused them with an illustrated lecture upon "Mr. Block." We wound up a successful meeting with a half-hour talk upon the One Big Union which was very well received.

We visited the other camp on Sunday afternoon and held an interested audience to whom I showed the development of Industrial Unionism, from the local industrial union to the general organisation. After this meeting was over we returned to the first camp, where we again gave another lecture on "Mr. Block," which was also followed by a heart to heart talk on industrial unionism. The audience showed their appreciation by collecting £2/12/6. We also sold all the literature that we took with us, amounting to over £2. There is demand for more, which shows that there is growing interest in the question of Industrialism.

As was quite natural there was a good deal of misunderstanding, about the I.W.W., fostered perhaps by interested persons. Anyway our visit cleared a good deal of it away, and we are contented to leave it to the boss, the machine, and time to bring them to the ranks of the One Big Union.

The slaves are getting sick of their slavery in spite of the schemings of officials, and the promises of politicians. They are beginning to understand that the only weapon that can end wages-slavery is a powerful class conscious organisation. The future lies with the I.W.W.

The live wires at Crib Point are doing great work boosting the One Big Union, and if they continue in the future as they have done in the past the triumph of the I.W.W. is inevitable.

R. M. ROSE.

Up to the present time, William Holman, Premier, has not been arrested for inferring that men fight for the Empire because there is six bob a day attached to it. He is taking a very grave risk, and if he takes our tip he will move before he is compelled to make his debut at the police court.

* * *

The meetings in the Hall, at 330 Castlereagh-street, have been conducted by F.W. King during the past two Sundays. On each occasion the Hall was packed by a very interested audience, who followed the lecturer very closely. Questions and keen discussions terminated in new members joining the organisation.

SYDNEY NOTES.

The out-door meetings of the local have been regularly held and well attended. A vast amount of interest has been aroused and stimulated by the arrest of F.W. Barker, which has attracted the attention of many workers to the organisation. The collections on the Domain were taken up for the purpose of defending Barker's case, for the two past Sundays resulted in the magnificent sum of £35. On Sunday, the 12th, over 54 dozen papers were sold at the Domain meeting. The street meetings have also been unusually good, being well conducted and resulting in good propaganda.

* * *

The greatest essential to-day in the working-class movement is a thorough understanding of the science of economics. Until a worker thoroughly understands this vital science, he cannot claim to be educated. To meet this important need the I.W.W. holds an economic class every Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. At the first class over eighty students turned up, which was increased to over one hundred on the second evening, which shows that there are workers who are interested in their own welfare. The audience should increase until the Hall is packed. The teacher is Fellow-worker King, who has developed a way of making the dry science very interesting and instructive. The class is free, alike to members or non-members. Everyone is invited next Wednesday at eight o'clock.

H. G. Wells as a Prophet

Few persons have ventured to predict the outcome of the war from a social and economic standpoint, but H. G. Wells, in the "London Daily Chronicle," is not so modest. "The modern war regimen tends to destroy plutocracy, and substitute an economic democracy," he informs us. He reasons thusly: "The poorer classes have experienced no class disaster by this war. On the other hand, as one specimen of the securer classes, I find the carefully arranged system of investments upon which I had relied for my old age, and for my widow's security, has depreciated by about 30 per cent. We are fighting this war very largely on our savings; the whole community is being impoverished, but, relatively, the rich are getting poorer and the poor better off."

This knowledge must be comforting for the poor; but we are afraid Mr. H. G. Wells' pretty theory, manufactured in the environment of the "securer classes," does not coincide with the facts. Seeing that the condition of the poor has always been more or less poverty stricken, it is rather difficult to follow the reasoning that they grow richer as a consequence of "the whole community being impoverished." To tell us that the working classes have experienced no disaster by this war, is to make one think of the poet's query: "Am I mad in a world that is sane? Or am I sane in a world that is mad?"

Perhaps Mr. Wells thinks that the 30 per cent. depreciation in the investments for his "widow's security" and the investments of the smaller fry of capitalists in general, who have been compelled to sell out in order to secure the ready cash so necessary when "money is scarce," have gone towards increasing the wages of the workers. Apparently he judges the position of the rich as a whole from his own petty bourgeois standpoint. This is all the more remarkable, since we are informed in another part of the same article that: "The United States will take the financial sceptre out of the hands of London and become the country of rich men, the securer country, to which all other countries will be in debt."

The war is rapidly squeezing out the small investor, which is the only sense in which the rich can be said to be getting poorer. Wealth, or more strictly speaking, legal titles to wealth, is rapidly accumulating in the hands of a few financiers, and perhaps if Mr. Wells has a glimpse into the safes of the plutocratic kings of finance, he would be inclined to reverse that sentence about the unfortunate rich.

With the concentration of wealth, the power of the wealthy over the rest of society grows, and, therefore, the conclusion that the war tends to abolish plutocracy and substitute an economic democracy is about the richest statement on the war question to date.

It is immaterial to the workers whether they are directly deprived of the product of their labor in the shape of profit, or indirectly in the shape of interest on huge war debts. They are scarcely likely to become "better off" by either process.

On the whole, Mr. Wells would be well advised to confine his genius for prophesying to the realms of fiction. His imagination in other spheres would appear to be clouded by the shadow of Pierpont Morgan's long arm over his "depreciated securities."

T. GLYNN.

Great Britain is spending £5,000,000 a day on the war, or £1,825,000,000 a year. If the population were divided into average families of five, this sum would give every family in Great Britain approximately an income of £200 a year. Imagine the howl that would go up from the ruling class if the workers in England demanded such a standard of living.

What is the I.W.W.? Send 1s. for a parcel of literature and find out.

Direct Action

OFFICIAL ORGAN

Of the

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD.

(Australian Administration).

Office:—330 Castlereagh St., Sydney Australia.

MANAGER: E. A. GIFFNEY.

Matter for publication only should be addressed to the Editor. Other matter to the Manager.

Subscription, 2/- per year. Special Terms on Bundle Orders.

HEADQUARTERS I.W.W. (Australia): 330 CASTLEREACH ST., SYDNEY.

CENERAL HEADQUARTERS— 164 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

Truth.

To enter Australian politics, to abide there, and to succeed therein, a man must have the instincts of a loafer, the aptitudes of a pickpocket, the conscience of a whore, and the honor of a bludger—otherwise most of the men who are there, or having got there, would not have remained there if they were not what they are, the most of them, the very intellectual lees and moral dregs of the most debased and demoralised sections of the community. This paragraph constitutes a condign condemnation of the personnel of our Parliaments and of the principles of our politicians. Nevertheless, it is a true saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that the average British politician is always either a damned duffer, or a damned rascal, sometimes both at once, and, therefore, deservedly doubly damned.—"Truth."

(The above is true of the politicians of all countries, whatever is their color, stripe or party. If John Norton continues with his meat-axe, in less than a generation, society will have as little use for a voter as John and the I.W.W. have for politicians to-day. Politics is largely a superstition, and Parliament is the dust-bin of the trade union, and a half-way house to Callan Park.

George Bernard Shaw hit home in "Major Barbara" when he talked of the 670 fools that constituted a Government in Wesminster, and which three policemen could scatter in the street. And we are pleased to see John dealing it out. The prop of politics is not the politician, but the ignorant voter, who votes for somebody to get something for him that he is not game to take himself.—Editor.)

In the "Sunday Times" of September 12th, the attention of the workers was called to the assumption that in Germany the Government gaoled the editors of working-class papers, and if the Germans came here, the same thing might happen to Australian working-class paper editors.

* * *

At that time the editor of this working-class paper was in Long Bay Gaol and confined to his cell 22 hours out of the 24. So it seems evident that it is not necessary for the working-class to await Kaiser Bill's arrival here to get some idea of what Prussianism amounts to.

Worker, Beware!

"Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty." From every corner where privilege and autocracy reigns there is heard to-day the cry of Conscription. That which was condemned by all shades of democratic opinion a generation ago as being subversive of all principles of democracy is now heralded by our rulers as an instrument of social salvation. On the plea that this country is threatened by German militarism, one evil is to be created in order to destroy another. The canker of militarism instead of being destroyed is going to establish itself more firmly in our economic and social life, for, make no mistake, once Conscription becomes law, a thousand excuses will be found, after the war is concluded, for maintaining it on the Statute Book.

Listen to what the capitalist press has to say when it permits itself to be candid. A cable in the "Evening News" of September 14th informs us that:—"Some of the newspapers state that a section of the Cabinet (in London) is in favor of compulsory organisation owing to the history of the railway strike in France in 1910. It is believed the power to call up men as soldiers would break a strike imperilling national safety."

The cat has escaped with a vengeance. Conscription is needed, not for the purpose of subduing the foreign enemy of the British ruling class, but for the purpose of crushing any semblance of revolt on the part of its economic enemy, the working class, at home.

The railway strike in France in 1910 opened the eyes of the world's capitalists to the possibilities of conscription as a weapon in case of industrial revolt. The striking workers were called up under military law and compelled to scab their own job on pain of being shot. It may be stated here, however, that Sabotage was subsequently employed by the workers to such good purpose that the military move failed to defeat the strikers. The ruling class is, however, aware that not all of the workers are educated on the principles of Sabotage, and their restlessness under ever-increasing economic oppression is driving the employers and their political agents into playing their last trump card.

Wherever Conscription has prevailed it has always been utilised as an instrument for intensifying the economic and social subjection of the working class, and we cannot afford to allow the seeds of the disease which has cursed and blighted European civilisation for the past hundred years to come to maturity in Australia. Conscription means government and dictation by a powerful military oligarchy. For years it has been the nightmare of the progressive and thoughtful element in every country in the world, and every step in the economic uplifting of the masses has been made in the teeth of the bitterest opposition of its champions. A Conscription Act should be the signal for industrial revolt and insurrection. Obedience to authority is sometimes a crime, and resistance to oppression, even when such oppression is sanctioned by law, is the duty of all right-thinking people. The workers should refuse to recognise any authority which would saddle them with the responsibility of taking human life, and they are fools if they remain passively acquiescent while their enemies are re-adjusting their hold for further economic strangulation.

"Breaking strikes imperilling national safety" means, from the masters' point of view, the safety of the profits made out of the sweat and blood of the working class, and the suppression at the point of the bayonet of any attempt by the workers towards economic improvement.

The masters are as ferocious in the protection of their profits as the tiger of the jungle in protecting its young. Abroad, they are shedding the blood of the working class in defence of their respective economic interests without scruple, and at home they are preparing to drown in blood and slaughter any attack upon their privileges of exploitation.

Workers, Beware of Conscription! You have the power to thwart it. Answer it with a general strike, and tell the bloodthirsty crew who are advocating it "if they want blood to cut their own throats."

T. GLYNN.

A Vindication.

I have noticed with surprise and regret that certain contributors to this paper have hinted more than once that Labor Governments do not deal out even-handed justice to the toiler. Some of these writers have even ventured to ridicule the Arbitration Court. This Court, it must be remembered, administers—to quote Westralian Attorney-General Walker—"the most up-to-date industrial laws in the world." That wages and the price of foodstuffs were fixed by law in ancient Rome, and—to come nearer to our own times—in England, in Queen Elizabeth's reign, does not detract from the truth of our Attorney-General's boast. And it is but reasonable to suppose that expensively educated and honorable men, such as lawyers, judges, and union secretaries, should know the wages, and the quality of food and clothing most suitable for the ignorant working class. If it was a good thing for our ancestors to have their wages and conditions fixed by law during the reign of that flame-headed and fiery-tempered harlot, ironically alluded to by historians as the "Virgin" Queen, surely it is a good thing for us. I am thoroughly in accord with our estimable Attorney-General, and would, if such a thing were possible, go still farther back. I have always deplored the march of this vexatious thing called evolution which deprived me of my hairy coat and my tail. Even life as it was in the cave period would have decided advantages over our present-day existence. Imagine it. Urged thereto by the Cave-wife's complaints regarding the state of the larder, and moved to compassion by the hungry whimperings of the young Cave-dwellers, one seizes his club and plunges into the woods in search of provender. Sauntering along a gloomy forest glade, idly swinging the heavy, knotted club, a vague prescience of evil days to come in some future reincarnation tinging one's musings with melancholy irritation—and to meet face to face, a politician, a judge, or even a policeman. To hear his supplicatory agonised yelp; to note his hair, horrent with fear; to grimly watch his futile efforts to escape; to feel the blood sing exultantly through one's veins as the trusty club is whirled aloft, high over the, shrieking wretch's head,—Ah, such bliss is not for mere mortals.

With the object of silencing once for all, these captious critics of our Labor Ministry, a couple of cases may be cited. Two workers in this State were sacked recently. One from the State Implement Works, and the other from the Aborigines' Department. The Implement Works man was more than suspected of thieving, although that word has fallen into disuse here, mal-administration or misappropriation is the correct term. The Aborigines man was "tramped" for the same reason that anyone is deprived of the right to live, retrenchment, re-organising the staff, or just because he wasn't wanted any longer. He was sacked, anyhow. Were these two unfortunate out-of-works compelled to grease their swag-straps and hit the road in pursuit of the elusive crust? Not on your life. We have a Labor Government in Westralia. Moreover these two men were battlers, and they created a noise, an awful noise, and demanded redress, compensation, or an inquiry. Also they had friends and these friends raised Hell. The daily papers also took up their case and called on High Heaven to witness the injustice done to these two workers. The Scaddan Government, true to their traditions where the rights of the workers are concerned, speedily announced their unalterable determination to see justice done. A Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the circumstances connected with the dismissal of the Implement Works man, and a Select Committee to investigate the Aborigine man's case. Thus a searching and impartial consideration of each man's grievances is assured.

FLANEUR.

Note.—To prevent misconception perhaps it may be as well to state that these men were receiving between £2 and £3 per day each as wages. One as manager of the Implement Works, and the other as Chief Protector of Aborigines.

The Masses and Their Glorious Freedom.

(A. Mack.)

"What is Freedom?—Ye can tell
That which slavery is, too well—
For its very name has grown
To an echo of your own."

—Shelley.

Since Europe set out upon its mad crusade of blood and democracy a year ago, no word has been mouthed more often nor uttered with more soul-stirring hypocrisy, both by the master class and their stupid, servile wage-slaves, than that word "Freedom."

The workers of Australia speak the word with great reverence, and with sickening regularity it is hurled forth as an excuse for the war crime in the Old World. Yet, if we except the militants of the working-class, and these number not more than 10 per cent., one cannot but be convinced that the rest of labor's army could be thrown back to the verge of chattel slavery and worked in chain gangs without a whisper of discontent arising from the apparently seething, soulless mass of servility.

The fact that the energetic and progressive members of the class can be ruthlessly arrested, bludgeoned and gaoled without arousing a spark of resentment in the breasts of the others of their class, is a matter for wonder to anyone who does not understand the psychology of the craft unionist.

To show that the majority of the modern industrial army are cursed with "tailed minds," it is only necessary to review the progress of the wealth producers through the last few thousand years. 'Twas with the daybreak of civilisation that man first became a chattel, that he was bought in the labor market or stolen from his native vales of real Freedom, because of the power locked away in his frame—his laboring power, his strength to work. From then till now the worker has vegetated under three different modes of Freedom. The first system of work and of wealth production was that known as chattel slavery; under that regime the workers were the direct private property of the boss, they did all the work then (as now), and in return were fed, clothed and housed by the boss in keeping with their high status in the social world. Yet even under these ideal conditions, there were ungrateful spirits among them who rebelled and complained against the master. These ignoble fellows, these low-down rascals were called agitators and were hated and tortured by the slave boss, and scorned and hated by the law-abiding members of the slave army, who violently lectured and assaulted the disaffected few whenever force of numbers rendered that procedure safe for the law-and-order patrons. One can almost hear the bone-dust of those "law-abiding" citizens—the prototypes of our modern army of toil—uttering the well-known platitudes, "The working man is better off to-day than ever before," "If you don't like our flag, why don't you go to Germany?" etc.

However, after centuries of this form of wealth-making and wealth-taking, the master-class, in obedience to the demands of new economic conditions, introduced another form of social organisation, that known as feudalism. The worker was now a serf, he didn't belong to the boss, body and soul (though his wife did for the first night of her marriage), but he belonged to the land, which belonged to the landlord. He worked a couple of days for himself, and the rest of the week for the master, except when he was required to do a little fighting; and when he'd finished the fighting, he went back home and worked harder than ever to make up for lost time.

"The fool was a patriot, so he thought,
For his dad in the Civil War had fought.
They fed him up on the grand old flag,
And he marched and whooped for a bit of rag,
While he afterwards held—the empty bag,
Even as you and I."

Generally speaking, the worker under Feudalism was contented that his position was better than at any other stage of history, and although he couldn't go where he desired, nor work when he wished, nor speak except in prayer to the gods or praise to the boss for his goodness, still he was proud of his Freedom, and angrily resented the arguments of that ubiquitous individual, that dissatisfied person, that "thorn in the side" of the rulers, the damned agitator. And again went forth the cry from the soulless serfs, "The worker is better off now than ever before." "No other country affords the freedom we possess here."

But, economic conditions changing, it again became imperative that the rulers should inaugurate a system of society more in harmony with the rising conditions. This time the workers were hunted off the land and replaced by sheep and deer parks. They were now free to go anywhere but on the property of the master-class, and, as the masters held nine-tenths of the land, it was hard to find a place to go, except into the work-shops and mines, etc. To these hell holes the pressure of the empty belly drove them, and there they have stayed and suffered and stagnated unto this day. They are free now; free to hire their carcasses out by the day or week to the highest bidder, that is if they are lucky enough to find the highest bidder before they die of starvation. But, as before, the glory of the new system, the crowning feature of our present society, is the improved brand of "Freedom." "The working man is better off to-day than ever before," "We have more freedom than have the people of any other country," are still the stock arguments of these descendants of the degenerates among the chattel slaves. Notwithstanding all our alleged privileges, there still arise the damned agitators—"the bloody red-raggers," as the bone-head craft unionist is pleased to sneer when he thinks the boss is listening. When one reviews these events, and craft union behaviour generally, and considers that the privileges, towards liberty, which were torn by our grandfathers from a master class several hundreds of years ago have now been torn back from us by the political flunkeys of the master class, and not a word of protest has gone out from the working masses, one must be justified in affirming that never in the record of civilisation, has such a prideless, soulless, spirit-broken crew performed a nation's work as that army of workers which stews and toils and sweats in Australia to-day.

"What are thou, Freedom! O! could slaves,
Answer from their living graves,
This demand—tyrants would flee,
Like a dream's dim imagery."

—Shelley.

MELBOURNE ACTIVITIES.

Local No. 8, 243 William Street.

Monday, 8 p.m.: Business Meeting.

Thursday: Propaganda Committee meets.

Friday, 8 p.m.: Propaganda meeting at South Melbourne Market.

Saturday, 8 p.m.: Educational lecture in hall.

Sunday, 3 p.m.: Propaganda meeting at Flinders Park (Yarra Bank).

Library and reading room open every night. Working-class papers on file. Industrial Union literature on sale. All rebels are asked to blow along and make themselves known. All slaves will be welcome.

J. LAWRENCE,
Secretary-Treasurer.

NOTICE.

The Editor of this paper cannot undertake to publish anything that is sent along by members or individuals. Organisation news and information comes first; topical instructive articles second, and, lastly, articles of general interest.

* * *

Fellow worker! we want subscribers for the paper.

The "To Arms" Poster.

TOM BARKER BEFORE THE COURT.

The Central Police Court was crowded on Wednesday last, when Mr. Macfarlane had before him for investigation the charges against Tom Barker, described as the editor of the weekly paper connected with the organisation known as the Industrial Workers of the World. There were in all four charges, the chief one, for contravening Regulation 28 of the War Precautions Regulations, 1915, listed up against the accused, i.e., That, on or about the 22nd of July, he printed and circulated a poster bearing the following:

TO ARMS!!
Capitalists, Parsons,
Politicians, Landlords,
Newspaper Editors,
And Other Stay-at-home Patriots.
YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS
YOU IN THE TRENCHES.
WORKERS,
FOLLOW YOUR MASTERS.
(I.W.W. Print.)

There were three other charges (really summons matters), being alleged breaches of the Printing Act, that of failing to have an imprint.

Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. P. K. White) appeared for the defence, and Mr. Bathgate represented the Crown.

The age of the defendant was given as 23 and his nationality that of an Englishman.

At the outset accused pleaded "not guilty."

Mr. Young now took the point that the regulations under which the prosecution had been instituted were ultra vires and instanced a recent action in Adelaide, South Australia.

The objection was over-ruled, Magistrate Macfarlane asking Mr. Young to confine himself simply to the matter before the Court. If any decision had been given binding this Court he would be pleased to hear it.

The regulation, Mr. Bathgate said, was valid. Kitchener to-day was

CALLING FOR MEN,

and recruiting was the agency by which we got the men. He proposed to show that defendant's action was, as alleged, a prejudice to recruiting, for at the present moment it was the fight of the Empire, the right to exist, and the defence of the Commonwealth.

Magistrate: Yes, Mr. Bathgate, I have over-ruled the objection.

Detective Adam Jordan said that about 11 a.m., on the 3rd inst., he, with Detective Develin, saw defendant at the office of the I.W.W., Castlereagh-street, Sydney, and informed him that they had a warrant for his arrest, and then read it over to him. Witness said: "I have been informed that these posters and circulars have been posted over the city and that several of them have been pasted outside your office." He replied, "I didn't think any action would be taken in this matter, that looks like as if I wanted to get recruits."

Witness went on to say that he asked Barker if he printed the circular and posters, and he said he did so,

FOR THE ORGANISATION,

the Industrial Workers of the World.

To Mr. Bathgate: He is the editor of "Direct Action," published at his office. He said also that since he had been warned by the police, he had not printed or sent any more of them out.

Continuing, witness said the defendant spoke nearly every Sunday in the Domain, and he had heard him about two months ago.

Mr. Young objected.

Mr. Bathgate said he wanted to connect defendant with a certain poster.

Detective Jordan said when at the Domain he saw the poster on the platform from which Barker and others addressed the people present.

To Magistrate: At the time he was speaking, one of the posters was exhibited on the platform.

Mr. Bathgate: About the time that poster was published, what were his public utterances?

The Magistrate would not allow the question.

Witness (to Mr. Young): I have been told that, previous to my visit, other police officers (Detective Moore and Sergeant Hamilton) had been to see the accused, some months before. I was not informed that the date of their visit was the same date as publication of the poster. I understand the officers did not make their visit together. I understood they went in connection with complaints about the "To Arms" poster. I did not hear if he had obeyed the officers, and had pulled down the poster outside the I.W.W. office. I read in the papers of some talk in Parliament to the effect that Mr. Cann would

STIR MATTERS UP

in reference to this matter.

Mr. Macfarlane: Keep politics out of the matter, please.

Witness (to Mr. Young): I knew he was the editor of "Direct Action," he told me so. He did not tell me he was the honorary treasurer of the Society. The poster reminds the class of people mentioned in the poster that they are required in the trenches. I see no objection to the poster. I know of no newspaper editor who has enlisted.

Mr. Young: Well, John Wren, a Queensland newspaper proprietor, has?—Yes, he has.

Have you seen Mr. Holman's circulars, do they prejudice recruiting?—I cannot say.

To Mr. Young: I know nothing against the defendant's character; he showed me his discharges, and said he had served five years in the army. He told me he thought he ought to get credit for the poster. I don't know if he said

IT "STIMULATED RECRUITING."

Sergeant Tom Pearce now entered the box, and said that at 10.15 p.m. on the 23rd of July last he saw the "To Arms" poster. It was wet, and on the wall at the corner of Reservoir and Elizabeth-streets. He removed it. He also on the same night saw a number of them, which had been posted in and around the Haymarket, and he defaced them as far as he could. On the 24th and 26th, when going on night duty, he saw many more posters of a similar kind, and he defaced them also. He further, on the 23rd of July, and 24th of July, saw the posters outside the office of the Industrial Workers of the World. He saw them right up to the end of that month. Every one he saw he defaced, at night time, and the nights following he did so he found other posters of the same kind had been posted up in their place.

To Mr. Young: I cannot tell you of the dates of Sergeant Hamilton and Detective Moore's visit. I know nothing at all about that. I saw no more posters after the end of August.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Young submitted that there had been nothing shown to support the charge. It was only those with minds affected with the

HYSTERIA OF WAR

who could take exception to anything in the poster.

Continuing, he said he didn't intend to call any evidence; his client admitted he printed and published the poster with, as he had told the police officers, the object of stimulating recruiting. His client was the ordinary editor of a paper, and the proof was entirely insufficient; indeed the Crown had utterly failed to sustain the charge which had been brought.

Mr. Macfarlane said to his mind the poster, which contained the words, "Workers, follow your masters, stay at home," did prejudice recruiting.

Mr. Bathgate: Do you wish to hear me on the matter, your Worship?

Mr. Macfarlane: No, Mr. Bathgate, I do not; not at this stage.

Mr. Bathgate: I'd ask for imprisonment.

Detective Jordan, recalled by the magistrate, said he had heard Barker say, "I don't tell you not to go to the war, but I'm not going. The organisation I belong to does not believe in war."

Continuing, Jordan said latterly, for some time past, he had not heard Barker refer to the war at all.

To Mr. Young: When he said he was not going to the war, I did not hear him say that he was medically unfit. (Here Barker's discharges, showing such to be the case, were now handed up to the bench.)

Mr. Young: He was in gaol for a week, he was refused bail before a magistrate, and later was admitted to bail. He has been treated

WITH GREAT RIGOR

in prison, has he not?—I can't say.

He was 24 hours out of 26 in a cell, was he not? (To Jordan).

Magistrate (to Mr. Young): Tut, tut! You don't seriously suggest that, it's farcical.

Mr. Young: I myself have been in gaol, and got out again at once.

Mr. Macfarlane: You were lucky. (Smiles were here observed all over the Court).

Magistrate: Is there any previous history as regards the man Barker before the Court?

Mr. Bathgate: No, your Worship.

The Magistrate here perused the discharges which had been handed in earlier in the case. These showed that Barker had been in the King's Royal Irish, and were marked "Very good," and he had been discharged as "medically unfit."

Magistrate: Tom Barker, you are convicted. **The Crown has asked for** your imprisonment but I will not order that; you are fined £50, in default six months' imprisonment, and I order you to enter into sureties, self in £100 and one surety in a similar sum, or two sureties each in £50, to

OBSERVE THE REGULATIONS

of the War Precautions Act during the currency of the war in which Great Britain is at present engaged, in default six months' imprisonment.

On the application of Mr. Young time was allowed in which to pay the fine, on entering into sureties to the extent of the penalty.

On the charge of issuing the "sabotage" poster, Barker pleaded guilty, and the other two charges were withdrawn.

Mr. Young said it was a technical offence, the omission of the imprint.

Mr. Macfarlane said there was only one penalty, £20. On looking through the Act he added that he had power to mitigate the penalty, but in the circumstances he did not **propose to do so. He was fined £20, costs 6s, in default three** months' imprisonment with hard labor. The sentences to be cumulative.

The other charges on the list were not proceeded with. — "Sydney **Truth.**"

San Francisco, Cal.

About five months ago the American Federation of Labor in this city took up the case of Ford and Suhr and tried to get the Governor of this State to pardon these two men who are doing a life time sentence for their loyalty to labor, but the governor has refused to act up to the present time, so the workers got busy and put the wooden shoe on. The papers have been coming out and telling us about the Germans setting fire to all the canneries because those places were putting out canned fruit for the Allies. And the governor is now saying that it is not the Germans but that it is the I.W.W. that is doing this because of Ford and Suhr, and that he will not let these men out until the I.W.W. quit. Well, it seems that we have their goat and they don't know what to do. The fire insurance companies of this State are refusing to issue any more fire insurance, so it seems that more than the governor is up in the air about this, and I think that before long, if the sab cat keeps prowling around at nights, that these men will be walking the street along with us. We are going to have a big entertainment on Saturday night to raise funds for direct action so as to get the governor to act quickly. We have a pretty good bill for that evening, and I think we will be able to raise enough for a good many wooden shoes. If there are any new developments along I will let you know all about them later on.

ALEX. WEIR

When you go on the job, don't present the boss with a copy of "Direct Action." An ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory. No boss is worth touching until he's been through the Bankruptcy Court at least twice. And the chances are that if he's been through more than twice that he has a foreman, and lives at Pott's Point.

German Socialism.

(Translated from Danish by H. Christopherson.)

During the first terrible days of August, 1914, when the German soldiers marched into Belgium, the working class of the world asked: Where is the powerful German Social Democracy?

And this question, with the ring of astonishment and terror which it contained, was as justifiable as anything in this terrible war could be.

The German Social Democracy at the time was becoming world-famous by its imposing membership and by the high-flown words of its leaders.

Were these words, was this power, which was paraded before the international working-class with its army of voters of 4½ millions, was it all deceit and fraud?

But it could not be otherwise! Had not these great leaders on the international congresses glorified the might of the dazzling armies of voters? Had they not time after time ridiculed direct action by the working class against war—besmirched it by calling it general madness, and promised that they, with their representative power, would prevent the war, proclaimed themselves the trustees of European peace? This is what they had done. And now—not a word—not a single sincere step to prevent the war!

Their words, their promises, their power, all were lies!

But how?

This has gradually been revealed. Remarkable reports came to hand—remarkable reports considering that they had proclaimed themselves representatives of international socialism—reports that the German workers' interests were so firmly interlaced with the interests of German capital, that the workers could not calmly look on while Germany was being conquered.

But for everything which to us workers is vital and sacred, what a crime! This is international brotherhood in German acceptation.

Have not the same men through millions of newspapers, pamphlets, writings, books, and speeches, depicted the horrors of war, its everlasting corruption, and described their own organisation as the only safeguard against this canker; and now the same men in servile manner deliver the workers of Europe to this pestilential canker in order to keep their rotten national business going.

They are afraid to lose the capital they have invested in their press. In order to get the profits and interests out of their party—capital, they have sold the European working class to the horrors of the battlefields and the sufferings in the homes.

Looked at from the point of view that this has been done by declared Socialists, then we can only say that they have shown themselves to be the meanest scoundrels in the annals of modern history.

From a German Junker or a Russian Grand Duke, from such tyrants we expect nothing but oppression and acts detrimental to the people. But these Socialists! Well, I think the majority of honest Danish workers cannot find words to express their feelings against them.

And now comes the inevitable result of their treachery; their press is being suppressed. The war has destroyed the power of the workers' organisations, it has sapped the vigor of the working class. Now the traitors begin to see the results of their treason, and now they become frightened—they split up and some cry for peace for fear that they may be annihilated. But the power they wished to secure for German Socialism by delivering the workers of Europe to the war is now so sapped through the war that the German Government shuts up one Socialist newspaper office after another, while the members of the party are butchered on the battlefields and their leaders dissipate their time in party squabbles.

This is the well-deserved reward of treason—but, alas! a reward which, far beyond the borders of madness whips the working class of Europe with sufferings beyond imagination.

Thus lies "the German Socialism" stripped in its repulsive nakedness, through the fear of the magniloquent spokesman for the consequence of their treason, and the split arisen through it.

Let us beware. We know well that the Danish Social Democratic leaders have never been anything else than the imitators of the Prussian system with its despotism and leader domination. It is despotism and leader domination which is the characteristic of German Socialism, and which has made it possible for a few unscrupulous German generals to deliver the workers of Europe to capitalistic murder. But this bureaucratic despotism shall be rooted out of international socialism in the future. The German traitors know that after the war there will be a day of reckoning, and that there will inevitably be two Internationals, unless the German labor movement be reconstituted on a democratic basis, in which it will be the workers who decide, so that the international working class movement be safeguarded against a handful of disguised servants of specific German capitalist interests thwarting and betraying it in its fight against war and capitalist imperialism.

Danish workers, be on your guard! Before or later—when the war is finished—then will the question come from the working class of Europe: Will you, in your action, renounce nationalism, or will you renounce internationalism?—"Solidaritet," Copenhagen.

Barker Defence Fund.

Acknowledgements.

G. P. Wilson, 2/; V. Brophy, 2/; W. McKay, £1; J. Attreed £1; W. J. Butler, 7/6; A. Cavander, 5/; E. C. Roberts, 5/; D. Armanov, 3/; F. J. Morgan, £1; S. Hopkins, £1; J. Wesler, 2/6; J. Fagan, 2/6; A. McKenzie, 5/; J. Duncan, 2/6; Yank, 1/; T. Roberts, 2½d; G. Robertson, 10/; R. Trembath, 1/; H. Kester, 10/; J. S. Shirlaw, 2/6; Mr. Stemplovsky. 1/; T. Smith, £1; J. Smithers, 2/6.

Collected at U.L.P. Society, 2/3; T. O'Loughlin, 3/; T. Moore, 2/6; Mr. Mackay, 5/; J. H. Sydney, 10/; Sheldon (per D. Grant), 2/6; Alex. Wilson, £1; C. Bendfelt, 5/; per Mrs. McNamara, £1; Casuals, 1/4; H. Burnham, 2/5; J. Basharimoff, 10/; G. Goldberg, 3/; H. Finbow, 2/; S. Simpson. 1/; T. Cowell, 1/; N. Falson, 2/; N. White, 1/; McGovern, 1/; W. Wolfe, 6d.; G. Gallagher, 6d.; J. O'Shannassy, 1/; W. Taylor, 6d.; T. Dwyer, 6d.; J. McGregor, 2/6; A. Reiss, 1/; D. McPherson, 5/; W. Mathieson, 5/; Dundee, 4/; F. Roels, 5/; A. McInnes, 10/; E.A.G., 5/; Anonymous, 2/; T. Waller, 10/; A. Parker, 1/; Domain Collection, Sept. 5th, £21/9/8; Sept. 12th, £14/6/9; Rock Choppers' Union, £8/4/6; T.J.S., 1/; D.H., 1/; J. Laurence, 1/; E. J. Ryan, 2/; B. Kelly, 1/; J. McF., 1/; Mr. B., 2/; E.W., 1/; W.T., 1/; W. Teen, 10/; E.Y., 2/; A. Carlson, 3/; Sympathiser, 2/6; S. Hopkins, 1/; T. Glynn, 5/; per H. Fish, £1/11/; H. Hunt, 5/; Jowett, 2/6; A. Mackay, 2/; W. Trembath, 5/; Neil White, 5/; A. Williams, 5/; H.G., 2/; H. Sweeney, 4/; G. Robertson, 10/; H. Trewren. 4/; W. Beatty, 10/; W. J. Chandler, 2/; Murphy, 2/6; T. Allen, 2/; G.J., 3/; A Friend, 2/; A. Mackay, 2/; K. J. Kennedy, £1; F. Ratz, 15/; G.J., 7/.

BARKER'S CASE.

A conference of representatives of Melbourne Trade Unions (which is sitting to consider proposals to amalgamate into "One Big Union") on Saturday carried a resolution condemning the Government for its arrest of Tom Barker, and wired to New South Wales Premier Holman, and also to Senator Pearce, demanding his immediate release. They also congratulate the English workers that are opposing conscription.

P. LAIDLER.

BROKEN HILL ACTIVITIES.

Rooms, Palace Buildings, Sulphide-street.

Wednesday evening, at 7.30 p.m., educational class.

Alternate Sundays at 3 p.m., business meeting.

Alternate Sundays, at 3 p.m., Economic class.

Sunday, at 7.30 p.m., outdoor propaganda meeting, near Post Office, in Argent-street.

Good Library.

Also good collection of literature for sale. All live rebels welcome.

E. J. KIELY, Secretary,
Local No. 3, I.W.W.

On with the Fight.

Are We Men or Eunuchs?

We will speak out, we will be heard,
Though all earth's systems crack,
We will not bate a single word or take
a letter back.
Let cowards shrink, let liars fear,
Let traitors turn away,
What'er we've dared to think that dare
we also say.
—J. R. Lowell.

The fight for the preservation of working-class rights still continues with unbated vigour in "democratic" Australia.

The traditions of free speech, public meetings, and free-press are threatened to be stopped in this country of Labor rule.

The Magna Charter, the Habeas Corpus, the British Constitution, of which we once boasted so loudly, are now being violated and trampled under foot.

All the liberties which have been won by sweat, and groans, and blood, and suffering, are about to be wrested from our grasp unless we stand together and defend them to the bitter end.

Plutocracy, in its vicious attack upon organised labor, has found a valuable ally in the Labor Party.

The industrial despots have solicited the aid of the Labor Party in an attempt to silence the voice of Freedom and strangle the Herald of Revolt.

The doings of the past few months have demonstrated that all parliamentarians, irrespective of their trade mark, are faithful slaves and obedient servants of the capitalist class.

The attempt to imprison the editor of "Direct Action" for a period of 12 months, shows to what depths the industrial kings will sink in an endeavour to put working-class agitators out of the way.

It is safe, patriotic, loyal, to tell the workers to go to the front, but let one dare to tell the boss that his country needs him in the trenches, and it is sedition with the sequel of 12 months' hard labor!

Professor David may talk to the workers at the Trades' Hall, and tell them to go to the front, and he is applauded, honored, and respected. But when a worker tells the Professor and his class to go to the trenches, he is arrested and thrown into prison. The clang of the jail gates is the boss's reply.

Where is our vaunted civilisation? Where is our boasted British freedom? Where, oh! where, is our democratic Labor Party?

The capitalist class, becoming fearful of the rapid growth of the I.W.W., and the spread of working-class revolt, has plotted and conspired to check its progress. They have used the War Precautions Act as a mere subterfuge to pounce upon active members of the working class, rush them off to prison, and keep them for weeks lying in a solitary cell awaiting trial.

Men who refuse to bow before tyranny or stoop to corruption; men who refuse to take part in unseemly and disgraceful demonstrations; men who dare give utterance to their thoughts and ideas are laid hold of in the streets upon some trumped up charge, spirited away without one word of warning, rushed into the outer world, thrown behind jail walls and treated worse than felons. **Fellow workers, can we stand for this?**

The recent action of the authorities in trying to silence the voice and still the pen of Tom Barker have shown to all what low-down, despicable gutter tactics they can be guilty of when dealing with members of the proletarian army.

The latest crime of the industrial tyrants is not confined to one man. The blow has not been struck at the individual alone, but at the whole of organised Labor. It is a malicious and dastardly attack upon our organisation. It is an infamous and foul attempt to wreck a working-class press. It is a devilish outrage upon militant unionism. It is a hellish conspiracy against the vanguard of the working-class. **Are we going to countenance such despotism? Will we stand for such Prussianised methods?** If the working-class are awake to their responsibilities, they will reply to these tyrants in no unmistakable language.

We must organise in such a fashion, and answer plutocracy in such a way, as will strike terror into their craven hearts.

If such Prussianism is allowed to continue with uninterrupted sway, no one can say where it will end. Such despotism must be resisted by every means in our power, or the working-class will sink into such awful slavery such as they have never known.

The days when the working-class were forced to meet away down in some dark cellar in the dead of night we thought were passed for ever. The time when advanced thinkers were forced to silently print their papers, and surreptitiously distribute them out among a few faithful followers, we thought were gone never to return. The doings of the Dark Ages we thought were things only to be read about in ancient history. **Can we suffer a return of such days?** Will we sanction a revival of such evil times?

We don't wish to become conspirators; we don't want to do things in the dark; we don't desire to form a secret society, but the master-class, backed by the Labor Party, are forcing the issue upon us. If ever that evil day should arrive, let Plutocracy beware!

We are men, not gnomes, hence we prefer light to darkness. We wish to work in the open, live, move, and have our being in the light of day. We wish to let every one see and know what we do and say. If we are forced into secrecy, we hold the master-class and its satellites responsible for all that may happen as a consequence.

We will not down! We refuse to die! We never surrender! We know no defeat!

If the industrial despots are going to continue with their persecution, we will reply in a like strain. If they force the issue, then on their heads lies the blame for what might follow.

Our cry will go rolling beyond the shores of Australia, and all live men will rise to our call.

All who have the spark of life in their bodies, or the attributes of manhood in their make-up, needs must rise on this occasion and smite these Prussianised tyrants a stinging blow in the teeth.

Much as we deprecate bloodshed, dislike violence, and abhor brute force, yet we refuse to allow our fellow-workers to rot behind prison bars for such flimsy trumped up charges.

If we are found wandering from the path of rectitude we are not to blame, the rulers of society are at fault.

For every hour one of our class lies in the Bastile of Capitalism, we must exact a heavy toll from the master-class. For every day's imprisonment we suffer, we will make the boss pay dearly.

Think of all that is at stake! If we lose the right of free speech, free press, and public meetings, it will take many lives, much bloodshed, and tremendous suffering to win them back again.

Let us hold these rights at all costs. They have been purchased too dearly to give them up without a kick. Let us show that we are virile men, and not stuttering eunuchs. Remember the Sab-cat, it is a weapon the master-class fear. On with the Fight.

NORMAN RANCIE.

The Chamber of Commerce have just discovered that it will be practically impossible to boycott Germany's trade when the war is over, because if they do, Germany will boycott their wool. And if Germany loses, and the Allies demand an indemnity, they can only obtain the same through the medium of trade. The English merchants found those facts out over a year ago, for, according to Wm. Le Quex, the English tea-merchant has supplied Germany's fighting men with over 20,000,000lbs. of tea since the war started. And our patriotic Australian commercial men are no different.

* * * *

At the beginning of the war with Turkey we were told, especially by the followers of the Cross, that the Turk was simply vile, and "unspeakable." That he was an atrocious person, and he would torture prisoners. Since then we are told that he is a brave fighter, plays the game, and that he treats the prisoners well. Somebody was a liar then, or else he's a liar now.

* * *

Make margarine wages mean margarine work. When the boss cuts the wage, cut the work. Shoddy pay, shoddy work. Slow workers live long, think easier and live better.

* * *

The "Dignity of Labour!" The dignity of hell! Did you ever see an old draught horse? Well, that's an example of the dignity of labour. Did you ever notice the absolute lack of "dignity" in a thoroughbred, Mr. Block?

* * *

The working-class and the employing class have nothing in common—not even in a Labour Party.

The Iron Heel.

With the progress of the war and the lack of success by the arms of the Allies, the governing class of Australia are rushing madly into a state of hysterical panic. Free expression of opinion is a thing to be crushed, when it disagrees with the opinions of those in office. To say that you object to war on principle, is in this "free" land, to invite prosecution, and a vindictive sentence, which you will have to serve in the hell-holes, ironically termed penitentiaries.

Citizens are hurled into gaol upon the slightest pretext, for merely stating facts. Magistrates suffering from hysteria inflict sentences that would turn a feudal baron or a Russian autocrat green with envy. Members of a recruiting committee visited a shearing shed recently, says "The Worker," and because a cook at the shed said that "the war was a capitalists' war," members of the committee had him immediately arrested for "trying to prejudice recruiting." To the credit of the fellow workers of this man, they got him released, and chased the gang of mischief making recruiters out of the camp.

The recent grabbing and persecution of working men who refuse to become hysterical, and see red at the behest of a lying press, is a scandal that it will take Australia many years to outlive. Labor Ministers openly state that "liberty of speech" must go. In order to defeat German tyranny, we must sacrifice our own liberty. And if you refuse to sacrifice the sacred natural right of free speech, a trumped up charge of "prejudicing recruiting" is laid at your door.

Persecution of this type is not calculated to make peace advocates become warlike, nor is it likely to send patriotic liberty lovers to fight for a liberty that is strangled before their very eyes. If the love of liberty is the thing men fight for, then the authorities of New South Wales ought to be indicted immediately on a charge of "prejudicing recruiting." But blind to the world wide economic and intellectual revolution, they persist in finding scapegoats that may be used to cover up their own delinquencies and failures.

Like King Canute, they see the waves in the distance, and imperiously order them to retire. But the tide rises on. The wild horses of the sea care naught for the cackle of monarchs, despotic or elective. So it is with the rising human tide.

Before the rise of "class embounded brotherhood" the vindictive laws of privilege become as friable as glass. The ink was not dry on the Munitions Act before it was smashed to a thousand fragments by the miners of Wales. The outrageous license laws of Victoria bred the glorious revolt of Eureka, when the flag of the Southern Cross was first reared o'er a rebel camp. The smashing of the Waihi miners, and the murder of Evans bred the New Zealand strike of two years ago.

The earth is seething with discontent, the rulers are blind, hysterical and mad. The platitudes of "liberty," "democracy" and "justice" are going to the dust bin. Persecution cannot beget patriotism, batons will not ensure peace, guns will not prevent murder. God deal lightly with the rulers of men, when the match goes into the magazine.

But hurrah for the coming storm. Fill the gaols, ye masters of bread! Howl and execrate in your herds, the vile and lowly mass. Wield the lash of hunger and victimisation for your beloved country's sake! Make "liberty" a mockery on the highway for the cause of your country's freedom. Laugh at, or cajole the disunited factions of Labour. Underestimate them even as your type did in the palace of Versailles before you.

Wield the whip, ye well fed unctious rulers, and laugh in the faces of the gaunt and hungry men, the line of child slaves, and the woman of the block. Laugh while the day is with you. To-morrow the change may come. The change that WILL come!

Rise from your slumbers, workers of the land of Eureka! Rise from your nightmare of death. Organise economically in the factory, workshop and mine. Away with the old and the outgrown. Down with your masters, who have despised and laughed at you. Who have gaoled and persecuted you. Up with the One Big Union of the Revolutionary workers, and down with the walls of gaols, that to-day encircles the stalwart hearts of the men of your class. Rise, for the "Marseillaise" is ringing, the song that saw a tyrant's head roll in the sawdust.

"Ye sons of freedom, wake to glory,
Hark! Hark! What myriads bid you
rise,
Your wives, sons, and grandsires hoary
Behold their tears and hear their
cries!
Shall hateful tyrants, mischief breeding,
With hireling hosts, a ruffian band
Affright and desolate the land
While peace and liberty lie bleeding?
TO ARMS! TO ARMS! YE BRAVE!
The avenging sword unsheathe!

F. J. BROWN.

Figures.

What They Don't Prove.

In the "Sunday Times" of the 19th inst., Meredith Atkinson, the leading economic light of the Workers' (mis.) Educational Association, puts up the usual plea for industrial efficiency, and tells us that according to the figures of wealth production in Australia by the Commonwealth Statistician, if the annual wealth of the country were equally divided it would not amount to more than £4 per head of the population.

Let us take the manufacturing industry alone. Total value of output in round figures in 1913 was £161,000,000. Wages paid £33,000,000, or an average per head of those employees of about £100. They received less than one-fourth of the total value. Mining figures show up even less favourably for the actual producers. Did Mr. Atkinson take into consideration the value of the wool, wheat, and other exports, the value of horses, hogs, sheep, cattle, etc., the dividends amounting to about £11,000,000 a year, which is paid to the British investor who does not know the latitude and longitude of Australia, much less giving "his directive ability" to industry, which we are so often told is the great factor in production?

If Atkinson wants economic efficiency he should advocate the abolition of a system in which not more than 10 per cent. of the population are actually engaged in production. He should stand for a sane system of society in which the huge army of non-producers, the capitalist class and their valets and flunkeys, members of the army, navy and judiciary, legal and professional sharks, politicians, parsons and other parasites, could be put to useful and productive labor. The commercial system under capitalism also embraces hundreds of thousands who produce no values, such as advertising agents, salesmen, travellers, book-keepers, etc., the great majority of whom are required only because of the conditions peculiar to capitalism, and who could otherwise be engaged directly in production.

If Atkinson's figures are correct they do not prove that the actual producers are not efficient or do not work hard enough, but, on the contrary, that there are too many who do not work at all, and others who are obliged to get their living, not by useful labor, but by useless toil.

Further, if the figures are correct, they do not prove that if the producer redoubled his efforts the £4 would immediately jump to eight, so far as he was concerned, but that he would have to bear an additional burden of non-producers, including 50 per cent. of those now employed, on his bent and brawny shoulders.

Mr. Atkinson's figures prove nothing except that he is making a bold bid to earn his salary and miseducate the class he sprung from. When the workers decide to enlarge the spoon which they dip into the common pot, Atkinson and other non-producers will have to work or go to hell. It is possible that some of them would prefer the latter alternative.

T.G.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

G. Arbuthnot, 1s; A. Bourne, 1s; J. Bergstrom, 6d; J. Budd, 1s; W. Champion, 2s; A. Davis, 2s; S. G. Edwards, 1s; F. Hyan, 2s; H. Howell, 1s; D. Jones, 1s; C. James, 6d; K. J. Kennedy, 2s; R. N. Kennedy, 2s; F. R. Keogh, 2s; Mrs. D. Kitchen, 2s; J. Lapisch, 2s; W. Lang, 2s; J. Murray, 1s; C. F. Macnamara, 6d; M. Marks, 1s; H. O'Reilly, 1s; S. Owen, 6d; D. Parrington, 2s; J. Roberts, 6d; J. Robinson, 1s; J. S. Shirlaw, 2s; W. Steele, 6d; B. Scully, 1s; J. Slater, 1s; G. Sinclair, 2s; W. Tiuterie, 1s; J. Torpy, 1s; F. W. Vears, 2s; H. Williams, 1s; J. Whittle, 6d; A. Wyer, 1s; W. Wark, 2s.

Organisation News

Encouraging reports have come in from Hambledon, Cairns, Q., where a bunch of I.W.W. men are making great headway with the propaganda for the One Big Union. There was nearly a strike over colored labor, which was averted by the boys. The local slave drivers are having a busy time studying the new art of striking on the job, which is becoming very fashionable in more than one place in Queensland. The boys on this mill are taking £1 worth of literature per month, and distributing back numbers of "Direct Action." And Hambledon is only one place on the map. Go to it, boys!

* * *

At the Mourilyan Mill, Innisf., there has been a successful strike of the sugar mills employees, who are mostly Spaniards and Italians. These men know how to stick together, and are good direct actionists. Solidarity is a wonderful factor nowadays, and the old parochial ideas are dying out, which divided the workers in the past. One Big Union for all workers whatever the creed or language. United, the working class are invincible.

* * *

The I.W.W. are putting in some lasting educational work in Corinthian, W.A., according to a letter just received. The Boulder propaganda is rather quiet just now, as speakers are scarce. In the vicinity of Fremantle and Perth good meetings are being held.

* * *

The propaganda on railway construction jobs in New South Wales goes on merrily. Many of the members have changed around on the jobs, but there is scarcely a job in the State that doesn't have its quota of I.W.W. men doing the necessary pioneering work. The new tactics, ideas and form of organisation appeals to the navvy, who in the past has paid but little attention to those questions.

SUBSCRIPTION BLANK
FOR
DIRECT ACTION.

Enclosed find P.O. for 2/, for which send me Direct Action for 12 months at the following address:—

NAME.
....
(Street or P.O. Box)
City ....
State ....
(If removed, please mark an x here).

THE I.W.W. PREAMBLE.

The working-class and the employing-class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who make up the employing-class have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organise as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centreing of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing-class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing-class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working-class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interests of the working-class upheld only by an organisation formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries, if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto: "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword: "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with Capitalism. The army of production must be organised, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organising industrially, we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

Printed and Published on behalf of the Industrial Workers of the World, by John Hamilton, Chairman of Press Committee, 330 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, N.S.W.