NTEPNATIONAL.

The Organ of the International Socialist League (S.A.)

Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

FRIDAY 19 JANUARY 1917.

1d. WEEKLY.

Manifesto, Troyeville Election.

To the Electors of Troveville:

The International Socialist League of South Africa has nominated Colin Wade for the forthcoming Parliamentary Election in the Troyeville Division. The last General Election -was fought on the issue of the Great War. The League and its candidate do not propose to let the capitalist. PartiesShide up that issue from the workers in this election. To the capitalists WAR has become, a profitable game, and PEACE a hughear they do not like to tack:

The Candidate of the International, Mr. Colin Wade. stands out as the representative of the only anti-capitalist Party new in South Africa. All the other Parties at this election are supporters or allies of the capitalists. Let the worker not be fooled with the idea that the Labour Party. now that it has expelled all revolutionary élements, is a Party of the working class. The Unionist and South African Parties have not closed their ranks to fight Labour in this contest. Why? After the war the fight between CAPITAL and know that a Mugwump Labour Party can do for the Capitalists what the capitalists DARE NOT DO FOR THEMSELVES. It has been left to the Labour Party to recommend native convict labour for State Mines. If has thus allied itself with the exploiter against the oppressed.

. The Fight against War is to-day as degen as eson The international declares that this War is nothing it we than a quarrel between the Bosses of the belligerent nations. The workers have no property to lose and therefore no, country to defend. The people of Europe are being slaughtered by the callion to satisfy the greed of the profitmongers. It is the proporsied class that rule, It is they who, by their financial control of the Press, the Schools, the Colleges and the Church, mainaggiound wink thagrent mass of the workers of the vaired away from their own interests to munal slaughter for the profit of their masters.

OThey tell us that if we do not support the war, some terrible calamity will befal the people. How is it then that in this hour of." National peril" the powerful interest that wile us are allowed to exploir the slanging of the people for hiling up profits, increasing the cost of living, multiplying shipping freights ten fold, and reaping unfold harvests from the scarcity of things; why are they allowed to draw hure profitfrom the manufacture of the munitions of wer, and from war Joan, they kindly lend at high interest for the protection of their own property; worse than all, why are extra restrictions put upon the workers' freedom of action, on their liberty of Press and speech! Why are all these things allowed when the people are supposed to be in danger from an enemy without? WHY? BECAUSE WAR ISLA GAME OF THE CAPI- class has plunged it. TALISTS TO ENTRENCH THEIR POWER, AND TO CAPTURE GREATER FOWER OVER THE WAGE-

EARNING CLASS.

They speak of crushing German militarism. What hypocritical cant! German militarism is enthroned in England to-day.. The workers of Britain are compelled to carry a pass like the native wage-earners in this country. They dare not leave a job to seek a better one without the consent of their employers. Where is the liberty they are fighting for? This, is casting out the devil of German militarism with the aid of the Arch-devil of conscription for the battlefield and for the workshop. PRUSSIANISM WILL HENCEFORTH RULE IN BRITAIN THOUGH BRITISH ARMIES ENTER BERLIN.

The people of South Africa have escaped the worst horrors of the war. So much more then is it their dury to oppose it. But the chains which have been welded on the working class of Europe are being prepared for the workers of South Africa also. We would warn the workers that Capitalist Governments have no gratitude. No consideration will be given for the patriotism of the workers in this war. And the alternatives are most surely being contemplated of either eliminating the white wage workers, or reducing them to LABOUR will be more open and fierce than 'evels; and they the state of industrial compulsion that already binds their native fellow workers in this country.

> There are now 18,000 invalided soldiers in South Affica. What have they fought for? What principle have. they vindicated, what honour gained? Their future is black, ingy preadready being slighted by the authorities and thrown onghe serap heap.

ZÉTHEMAN WHO WORKS FOR WAGES HAS NO EMPIRE TO DESERVE.

I aid the worker-realise this and stand together as a class there will be no escape for society from the increasing evils that attend the capitalist system. We are out to proclaim that the present war with all its horrors is not merely an unfortunate aczideni. It is the great inevitable outcome ..of the profit system. Greater calamities must yet come while expitalism lasts. The Unionist Candidate's land schemes wills do no produce. They are tinsel to mislead the grouple The Labour caudigates White Labour Pelicy will be no genedy; for willy nilly, the native workers are here to stay becauseour Capitalist releas want them. The South African Parix candidaties want of policy will not postpone disaster All those Parties andorse the subjection of the workers and the cale of shinghter in Peace and War.

The hope of the world therefore is for the organised whiling chass is take orbithe leadership of the people. This is the great inessage of Socialism, a call to the workers to unite in their various industries, irrespective of race, colour or 'creed, the whole world over to capture political and economic power from the lands of the small privileged class that at present controls the ipachinery of production, and to lead humanity out of the chaosinto which that morally bankrupt

A VOTE FOR COLIN WADE IS A VOTE FOR THIS. THE ONE HOPEFUL MOVEMENT OF OUR TIME.

The Second Annual Conference.

the International Socialist League become more urgent than ever." held last Sunday at the Trades Hall, The Press Committee's Report anzimtoti and Umkomaas respectively. from Pretoria Socialist Society, Com- unabated vigour. rades Blake and Conolly. Durban, Benoni, Germiston, the Johannesburg branches, had their full quota of delegates. Behind the delegates, members with the right to speak but not vote. Britain. But the motion of the participated in the proceedings. The Western Districts Branchato include Social Democratic Federation of Cape- | "Industrial Unionism" in the Objects town sent the following wire.

send greetings to International Socialist Conference and express the hope that your deliberations will help to solidify Socialist throughout South movement Africa."

The Conference agendamainly consisted of administrative matters; -- proposals obviously arising from the intense experiences of comrades in the there were also several sharp discussions on principles, mainly on the defining of the term "political action"

The Conference opened somewhat later than the scheduled; time of 9.a.m. Comrade Andrews in the chair during the whole of the day.

Credentials passed, and the Management Committee's recommendations on Standing Orders adopted, the Chairman delivered a short address welcoming the delegates. He referred to the importance of the Conference, not only to themselves, but to the workingclass movement in South Africa. "Our movement" he said, "had an importance far beyond that of its membership."

The Report of the Management Committee was proceeded with. "One thing is realized by us all," said the report, "that the conventional pre-war viewpoint and activities of orthodox Labour Parties are out of date, and the need everywhere for a body of Socialists such as the League aspires to be, abreast of the times, with a revolutionary outlook based on the clearest appreciation of the class

The second Annual Conference of struggle in its most modern forms, has

Johannesburg, was of an epochal shewed an achievement in financing a character. All the Branches were re-paper for so numerically small a presented, except Krugersdorp. But movement; much of the credit for Comrade Geo Mason was present from Wwhich is due to Comrade Barnet, who that district as a member. Other signed as Treasurer. The Reports' members from further afield were com- recommendation to turn "The Interrades S. G. Rich, who made interesting national into a monthly, owing to contributions to the discussion, and the large deficit met by comrades, was Comrade L. D. Goodenough, from Am-t not adopted. And there was an all but unanimous desire evident to carry Fraternal delegates were also present, on the paper in the coming year with

Coming to the motions on the agenda, the Conference deemed it unwise to adopt the Objective of the Socialist Labour Party of Great of the League was carried. The "Socialist Democratic Federation | "Objects" now read: "To propagate the principles of International Socialism, Industrial-Unionism and anti-militarism."

A vigorous discussion ensued over interpretations of the political action clause in the Constitution Motions to amplify and to nullify that clause were alike voted down. But it was made an instruction to the Management Committee "to at all times urge movement during the past year. But ion branches to take active interest in the work of state, muncipal and other public bodies."

> The Conference declared its complete political independence in a resolution providing that, "No member of the League shall be allowed to organise, canvass, speak for or assist in any way whatsoever, any political opponent or other political body or party."

The Constitution of the Management Committee then came up for review, and a sub-committee having sat during the tea interval, their report was adopted; with the result that the M. C. now contains 13 members instead of 9. And the Press and Finance Committees were made sub-committees of the M. C.

An important resolution was carried providing that any member of the League holding public office shall not be eligible to sit as a member upon the Management Committee.

This done, the Conference proceeded to elect its Management Committee for the ensuing year, as follows:

Chairman: Andrew Watson. Vice-Chairmen: T. Chapman and C. B.

Tyler. Treusurer. E. H. Becker. -Secretary-Elitor: D. Ivon Jones. Executive members: W. Keid, John Campbell, Fred Robertson, H. Barendregt, J. H. Andrews, J. den Bakker, D. Smith, J. Bacharach. (3 carpenters, 2 fitters, 1 Electrician, a Sampler, a Cabinet maker, a pipe-fitter, a bricklayer, a blacksmith, and a bookkeeper!! - with the exception of the Secretary-Editor, a complete change of personnel.)

On resuming again on Monday evening, a very interesting discussion took place on the payment of fines inflicted for Socialist propaganda. Eventually the following motion by comrade Barendregt was adopted:

"That the organisation in case of prosecution of speakers and propagandists of the League, make provision for direct dependents of the prosecuted, but that no fines be paid on behalf of such propagandists."

This discussion of course arose from the prosecutions of comrades during the year.

Conference then suspended standing orders to discuss the Troyeville Election, and the nomination of Comrade Colin Wade for that contest was endorsed with enthusiasm.

Before ceasing its labours the Conference discussed a motion by Comrade Dumbar" that the Conference express its sympathy with the 1. W. W. members Who have sentenced to imprisonment in Australia." Much misgiving was expressed that this might be construed as a declaration of policy on sabotage, and provisoes were sought to be included, but the Conference decided that that would vitiate the expression of sympathy, and the motion as proposed was agreed to be sent to the I.W.W. in Australia.

The Conference then arose with the singing of the Red Flag.

Thus the Conference has in effect given orders that the course which the League, and its paper "The International, has pursued in the past, shall be continued with redoubled vigour. And the appointment of an M. C. animated with the fire of the Class Struggle is sufficient guarantee that this year too the League will not be unworthy of the trust imposed upon it as a section of the great New International.

Have you subscribed to "The International," 5s. per annum, post free, Box 4179, Johannesburg.

Taxation will not help the workers.

By J. M. G

The political narlequins who mislead the workers by all sorts of useless reforms, especially along the line of Taxation, are deceiving the workers. They are using the workers as political pawns in the struggle between the different sections of the Capitalist class as to which section shall bear the heaviest taxation. What the workers have to realize is, whether the industrial capitalist or Farming interests, the big capitalist, small capitalist or middleman pays the taxes, makes no earthly difference to them.

The want of knowledge of economics on the part of the workers allow them to fall an easy prey to these political adventurers. They do not recognise the Iron Law of supply and demand in the Labour Market, where the workers compete one against another and by so doing keep down wages to a bare subsistence.

Labour Robbed in the Workshop,

Labour produces the wealth of the world, and where the workers are robbed is in the workshops, the mines, Railways, etc. and not by the Tax gatherer. Of the wealth produced the the workers get but one fifth. The other four fifths is annexed by the capitalist class, out of which is paid the income tax and most of the other taxes required to maintain the State:

The workers undoubtedly out of the wages they receive pay rent for the houses they live in, in which is included the taxes paid by the owners of these houses, also any tax which may be levied on commodities they consume. But what has to be realised . by the workers is that, were it possible to remove all taxation from all houses they use, or commodities they consume, the removal of these taxes would have a tendency to reduce the cost of living; but only temporarily, as wages would automatically fall to the bare subsistence line of living owing to the law of supply and demand.

The Unemployed A.rmy.

The workers' power to labour is a commodity he has to sell in the labour market; and the amount of wages he receives in exchange is regulated by the number of applicants for work. If there are few unemployed there is a tendency for wages to rise. If work is scarce, the number of unemployed is increased; and the worker, for the

sake of food for his wife and children, takes what is offered him by the man that owns the job.

The capitalists are by no means philanthrophists, and take advantage of any reduction in the cost of living to reduce wages accordingly.

Workers competing in the labour market for the right to live, have lost their status as human beings. They are on exactly the same footing as vegetables, clothing, horses, cattle or asses.

No, lower taxes, or the abolition of taxes, would not put anything in the workers pockets. Hunger, that irresistible force, compels the workers, and renders them pliable to the needs of the capitalists. It compels them to go underground and work in the mines for a mere pittance. It compels them to work under conditions which shorten their lives. It compels them in spite of the hundreds of thousands killed in mines, railways and workshops to accept all risks, for what can only be called a starvation wage. It cannot be otherwise.

The huge army of unemployed,—
a necessary and ever present condition
of our present capitalistic system—
drives the workers to accept any wages
and any conditions forced on them,—
he that works cheapest gets the job.

Such is the brutality of our present system of society, the fear of starvation is the incentive to work, it is a prop of the system.

Wage-Slavery Cannot be Reformed.

This tax question by which the political vote catchers delude the workers, can only be put to rest, by the workers understanding these simple economic facts. By doing so they will consign these pole climbing acrobatic adventurers to the oblivion they deserve. Let the worker realise that while they remain wage slaves under a system or form of society based on class distinction, they will only receive from their masters a bare subsistence; or at best a fraction higher, if he belong to a strongly organised industrial union.

We as Socialists hold that any political or other party that promises relief from the present degrading conditions along the line of reduced taxation are deceiving the workers with a middle class issue; and that the only hope for the workers is in industrial organisation on the basis of taking control of the tools of production, and using their votes to capture the political machinery, giving them control of the material forces of Government; and by doing so end the

political Star and invagarate industrial demorracy. the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The Troyeville Election.

The League has entered the Troyeville. Parliamentary contest. Comrade Colin Wade is the condidate. It has decided that the sham light of the other three parties shall be a real one so far as we can make it. The Capitalist Press is und ubtedly giving hints to the electorate to return Colonel Creswell as a reward for his great service in side-tracking the Labour movement from its true aim.

The League's message on the War and the deepersissues of Capital and Labour underlying it, as set forth in our Manifesto, will be placed in the hands of every elector in Troyeville. It will not be our fault if every elector in the division will not know the real issue at stake.

Committee Room is at the Corner of Thames Road and Bertrams Road, near the Tickey stages on both the Troyeville and Judith Paarl trams. There is plenty of work for all at any time of the day.

One open air meeting has already been held, and this will be continued every available night. All sturdy comrades are urgently needed to back up the speakers-

A meeting will be held at St Augustine's Hall, Doornfontein, on Thursday evening next, when Colin Wade and all the other M. P. C's in the League will speak.

This coming Sunday there will be an open air meeting at the of the Town Hall, when Comrade Andrews will speak. Comrade Wade will speak at the Trades Hall at 8 o'clock.

In connection with the strike against cheap coloured labour on the Van Ryn Mine, and the subsequent inquiry, Mr. J. Forrester Brown, the Secretary of the Miners Union has received a letter from the African Political Organisation (the Cape Coloured men's organisation) inviting the Executive of the Miners to a joint Conference for an interchange of views "which might be the means of arriving at a compromise which will be to the best interest of both."

Comrade Brown's well known views on the necessity of organising all wage-labour irrespective of colour gives us hope that the Conference will be held, and with far-reaching results.

Federation favours Conscript Labour?

Now, that seems a rash thing to say: that the old Federation favours industrial conscription. But read the press report of the Federation's evidence before the State Mining Coumission, advocating State Mines, and the Federation Secretary's comments there, on. Having endorsed State Mining, the official mouthpiece of the Trade Unions gave the following reasons for so doing:

> "He was of the opinion that the State could work the miges as effectively as private individuals. The phase "Government stroke" was nothing more than a term. and indeed Government, employes put up with hustling upon occasions because they had a life job. In case of dispute and unjust demands the Government had means of dealing with the matter which the private employer had not he referred to the army and the police.

They can deport you, too, said the Chairman.

"Yes, they can do all sorts of things."

What a splendid idea. Because they have the army and police to cope with unjust demands by the Federation, the Federation therefore recommends State employment.

The Labour Party has already plumped for native convicts. Now comes its industrial reflex going the whole leg for industrial conscripts Of course the Press report may yet be contradicted; but that is just where

dingo Labour Leaders are steering us: State Serfdom for Beccommon or garden workman, and \$300 billets for themselves.

Are we not Over-bessell

Some time ago the Germiston Trackless Trains were on the verge of collapse. They were rapning at a iremendous fess. Our information is that before finally closing down, the Council decided to sack the manager. and theseave a huge mouthly salary. Largely thrown on their own responsibility, drivers and conductors arranged Thy commen action the working of the schedule, and the man's me only started to pay, but the service ran smoother than in the days of the manager! Who says that the workers cannot manage industry. They are not given a chance. They are overbossed.

Advance Skirmishes.

A year ago there was a strike of natives on the Van Ryn Mine. This New Year there was a strike of white miners there against the employment of Cape boys on waste packing work hitherto done by whites. The Cape boys were paid 3 - per day with a bonus that brought it up to 5/- per day. The white men resumed work pending an inquiry, which was hold last Monday.

The manager, who is blessed with the cognomen of Mr. Carl Marx, stated his case. The pipefitter who led the Protest Strike, Mr. W. P-Richard-From, give very interesting evidence He is to be congratulated on his true workingclass attitude:--

> "Witness had said to Mr. Marx, that he did not object to Cape boys as such, but because they were cheap. He personally was willing to work with them if they got the same wages as a white man, and were qualified to do the work allotted to them. In this case they were not protesting against what had happened, but what might happen."

Thais right Richardson, keep that point clear. Be logical too and get them into your Union. If you don't object to work with the Cape boy you don't object to organise with him. Failing il.a. all your patrictic pin prick strikes now will only be rewarded by the complete abolition of all your mies inc safeguards when the Loys come home."

The first tenter to be a transfer to the state of the sta Thomas, I quarantee di na in equa its platfori, out on a lateral ast astericial is The state of the s

The Alemnesburg Transwaymen are on the war path. Great cheering could be heard at the mass meeting of theirs in the Trades Hall last Thursday They had sacked their Bum President. whose relations' with the management had been is o cordial for the taste of the ranks and file. There is a latent sense of working class solidarity in the Union that gives one hope for the Industrial Movement.

International Socialist League (S. A.)

OBJECT: To propagate the principles of International Socialism and anti-militarism and to meintain and strengthen interiorial workingelass organisation.

P. O. Box 4179 'Phone 6035. 6 Trades Hall, Rissik Street, Johannesburg General Secretary: D. Tem lones

BRANCH DIRECTORY.

Benoni: Meetings every Tuesday evening at Smith's Studio, 11 Lake Avenue. Secretary: T. Chapman, co hake Avenue added Samily States.

Johannesburg Ensiem District - Secretary profical C.P. Tyles, 11 Evan St. Fourth Hill.

Johnneslan, Central: Public Medings every Suming night at Trades light. Rissik Street. Secondary: W. J. C. Lille. son. 238 Smit Street. Mandereis View.

Johnson-Built Western District-Secretary: D. Illa, 23 Ferroire Street.

Kinger-denge Sourcing, P. Som også 5 Mei Street.

Germision: A. Secretaries, W Prince Box (1) 11. 11. 11. 13. 15. Queen St.

Dudan: Palite meetings every of I day night in Active Brillings. Some is a W. - Mitthian Dennis Property Property.

The Gameral Deploys and the Court Ten Rooms rowistored Books men 1916, name Demorthenis Sofiance, on Similar. Mogoliont in. has been Print 11 - Print 1 and the second distribution of the State of the State of the second

The Kather Entire Line Inches The state of the s Hitting H. Monney of The One of the Continue of St. Delegation of the first terms of the second and the state of the best of the contract of the

The Interior Soil Agent of Bright and the property by the first of the Albertan San Sin Nighth Street, Arederica, 19, 19, June 1916 has been diametoned as from Dec-(military) is a little of the second

C. & L. Clingman Party's agents. 25. Mercantile Bldgs., er Commissions er. E Simmond: Sis. Johnne burg.

Have you subscribed to "The International." 5s. per ganum, fest free, Kox 4179, Johannesburg.

> Practed by the Ellite Printing Socies. for the 1.8.1. Box 4179. Johnson.