

life around him. He succeeded, to the very letter of his purpose, in establishing the best-organised band of workers in Australia, and probably in the world.

His next step was the founding of a journal, to be specially devoted to the cause of the worker, and to become the official organ of his newly inspired Trade Union battalions. It was called *The Worker*. It is the prototype of all its numerous successors. It was published in Brisbane at first monthly; but as soon as the ranks became thoroughly imbued with his aggressive militant spirit, it was issued as a weekly.

This is probably a fitting place to trace rapidly some distinctive features in that special form of journalism which has sprung up in Australia from the seed that Lane sowed. Lane gave to it its characteristic form and tone. His paper became partly a bureau of labour-socialistic information, and partly a pulpit-thumping drum, booming general denunciation. Except when identifying persons with systems, he never allowed criticism or exposure to descend to the depths of either invective or scurrilous personalities. He invariably presented his argument eloquently and often cogently, but his address to the jury, however *ad captandum*, was seldom personally abusive of the other side.

When he left Queensland to startle humanity from the wilds of Paraguay, he was succeeded by (that is, he named, with more than pontifical assumption, after the manner of all his class) Ernest Blackwell to the chair. Blackwell was as much superior in literary ability to Lane, as he was inferior in all the other qualities which are necessary to a successful journalist. Lane never knew when to