



**QUEENSLAND AND AUSTRALIA.**  
(Reprint from Glasgow Forward.)

In Queensland the Ryan Labor Government during the past three years had been busily engaged in nationalizing industry after industry, and a great capitalist effort was made at the elections a fortnight ago to sweep the Labor Party from office and stop this gradual elimination of Capitalism. At the time of writing, we know little beyond the result—Labor 51 seats, Capitalists 21 seats, all the "soldier candidates" run by Capitalists being defeated.

Ryan's policy, the complete and democratically controlled public ownership of land and industrial capital, will, after this remarkable vote of confidence, be pressed more vigorously than ever, and will give renewed encouragement to Socialists all over the world who believe that their "day" is at hand.

Of course, it should continually be remembered that the conditions in Australia are exceptional. The stock is adventurously-minded (descendants of burned-out emigrants, Botany Bay convicts, and so on) and the standard of education and comfort is the highest in the world. The emigrants left behind them in the old country the slave stocks, the broken in spirit and in body, and Australian Socialist propaganda has a field of highly-developed intelligence to work upon. Nevertheless the fact that after three years' steady nationalization of industry the people of Queensland increased their Socialist representation and spurned the Capitalist-Militarist combination so emphatically, shows that given the proper educational foundations, Socialist construction will not be delayed by popular "reactions."

An Australian correspondent describes for us some of the tricks played by Billy Hughes in his recent effort to carry Conscription.

"To make doubly sure of victory this time, Hughes disenfranchised naturalized Germans, and sons of Germans, which meant something like 100,000 votes. He lifted the censorship, and then prosecuted editors for not having submitted articles to censor prior to publication. He prosecuted T. J. Ryan (Premier of Queensland) for having used figures re recruiting which were issued by his own Ministers a few months before. Ryan won the case, and was given costs. He fixed the voting for a Thursday, thinking that the workers would not all get to vote. He closed the rolls, giving but 36 hours to get names in. And withal, he failed and failed ignominiously, to carry Conscription. Last time we won by 72,000; this time we put nearly 100,000 on to our majority.

"He wanted 7,000 recruits per month to reinforce 100,000 men (five divisions). He was just going to take the difference between the 7,000 and whatever numbers voluntarism—which was still to exist—afforded. He was not to take married men (they were taking them in New Zealand). His exemption pro-

mises were innumerable. He would keep his pledges if 'Yes' was carried' he would do as he liked if the proposals were turned down. He framed the question on the ballot paper so the gullible would think that Labor opposed reinforcements. And he lost.

"Had the majority been smaller this time, I feel sure Hughes would have given way to Irvine and Conscription would have been thrust upon us. They dare not try it now; we know our strength.

"Labor has shed all its Conscriptionists, the old Parliamentary lot who went wrong are all in the Liberal fold now. We are a more revolutionary lot, and at the last conference I was successful in carrying Socialism as the South Australian Party's objective."

It remains to be added that Hughes did not resign, as he pledged himself to do, when the conscription referendum went against him.

**BRITISH I.L.P. CONFERENCE**

**Sounds The Death Knell of Capitalism and Declares for a People's Peace.**

The plain men and women of the world, unskilled in the arts of diplomacy, untrained in the methods of politics, but knowing clearly what they want, must have their say and above the roar of battle, must declare in one another's ears for peace—upon which they have set their hearts; a peace based upon that great principle which gleams like a star out of the blackness of the Russian chaos—the right of every nation to determine its own destiny' so spoke Mr. Phillip Snowden, M.P., at the opening conference of the British I.L.P. at Leicester, England, amid tremendous enthusiasm and applause. The speaker reviewed the work of the party during the past year, and declared that 158 new locals had been formed, and made reference to the Representation of the People Act, which embodied legislation which the I.L.P. had agitated for 25 years.

Mr. Snowden claimed that the statesmen of the allied powers had not given an honest public statement as to their real war aims, but that the real aims of the allied powers are embodied in secret treaties to which the allies are committed. Briefly summarized, the principal points in his speech are as follows: "The best services we can render to those who are exposed to death on the military front, and to those who anguish and grieve at home is still to point out the only possible way out of the terrible situation."

"So long as the allies pursue the aims to which they are committed by secret treaties, peace negotiations are impossible."

"The aims embodied in these secret treaties violate every one of the principles of a peace settlement such as enunciated in the public declarations of British statesmen and the American President."

The conference was attended by several thousand delegates, and there was harmony throughout. A resolution was passed placing on record

its appreciation of the stand made for social and economic freedom by the workers of Russia and their exposure of capitalist imperialism by the publication of the secret treaties and pledged itself to do all in its power to inform the people of Britain of the truth of the position adopted by our Russian comrades in the interests of International Socialism."

Declaring that the resolution he was moving was worthy of any sacrifice, and that there are tens of thousands that can be, and will be converted to it, Mr. Robert Smillie, President of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, moved a resolution reaffirming that a democratic and unaggressive peace secured by negotiation at the earliest possible moment, can save the nations from mutual destruction, ruin and bankruptcy, and urges in the interests of civilization that no opportunity be lost of examining honestly the possibilities of world settlement and sends greetings to men and women of all countries who are working for a people's peace without annexations and indemnities and with the right of peoples, large or small, to determine their own life.

Resolutions protesting against the infringement of the civil and political liberties of the people, were passed, and the treatment of the conscientious objector was not forgotten. J. Ramsay Macdonald, in a powerful speech, moved the adoption of the Soldiers' Charter.

M. Letvinoff, the Russian People's ambassador, sent a telegram which said: "We admire your stand for Internationalism, and are with you in your strivings." A procession was organized, which marched through the streets headed by the Socialist Sunday School children carrying a banner with the words: "Good folks all a word with you What a world to bring us to."

(Continued from Page One) established before Social Democracy was expounded. This point must be considered when we discuss the Labour Party, since the need for independent political action was not recognised till long after Trade Unionism was admitted to be essential. If participation in the daily struggle over the smaller issues that arise in the Trade Union world is right, why should participation in the Labour Party be wrong? Are not the demands at an election the political translation of the demands made during strikes? The issues are as broad or as narrow; the palliatives that arise for discussion during an election campaign are not less sound than the demand for increased wages. (The writer asserts that palliatives are economically sound). If it is agreed that political action is necessary to the working class then it will follow that we shall agree to fight politically on the same issues as we fight industrially. Both methods, whatever the magnitude or nature of the immediate issue, are alike manifestations of the class struggle. Membership of the Labour Party is equal to the membership of a trade union. Voting for a Labor candidate with a programme that would palliate the evils of the capitalist system, whilst leaving the system fundamentally unaltered, is the corollary to striking for an increase in wages.

But striking is more revolutionary! What Social Democrat can say that? With the Labor movement as it is, when workmen strike they move against their particular employer or group of employers. When a work-

man votes for a Socialist or a Labor candidate he votes against the whole of the capitalist class; he votes for his own class without regard for craft or industrial divisions. The Trade Union Congress cannot effectively express the class interests of the workers because it has no power to coalesce the industrial elements that compose it. On the other hand, the Labor Party, though composed of the same elements as the Trade Union Congress, in its corporate capacity, mingles the various groups. It does not act for a particular group, but for the whole working class. Although working class politics are not so dramatic as striking, nor their results so drastic, they are an educational factor of the first importance in developing a sense of class solidarity. The Labor Party is not a Socialist Party. But the forces operating to make the trade unions more effective on the industrial field will not be idle or powerless inside the Labor Party. As it is no breach of principle to be a trade unionist, it must be right to be in the Labor Party. Indeed, many who object to the affiliation of the B.S.P. with the Labor Party are members of that body through their trade unions. We have seen the most conscientious industrialists as delegates at Labor Party conferences. If it is bad Socialist tactics to be in the Labor Party, why are they there? There is no compulsion. Thanks to that good servant of the capitalist class, Osborne, they can plead a conscientious objection to Labor politics and decline to pay the political levy. Activity in the Labor movement makes them good Marxists' while the rarified atmosphere of the club debating society turns men into spinners of violent words and useless theory-mongers.

(To be continued.)

(Continued from page Two) the Council of the Russian Republic, with its immense proportion of business men and cadets, was officially instituted.

From the first the Bolsheviks refused to sanction the existence of the Council. At its first meeting, in the Marinsky Palace, Trotzky took the tribune in the name of the Bolsheviks, and made a speech which contains the full premises of the Bolshevik insurrection. And when it became clear that there was nothing more to be said in opposition to the compromisers, but only something to be done, the Bolsheviks quitted the Council of the Russian Republic in a body.

That was on October 5th.

(To be continued.)

**Next Issue "The True Revolution".**

**A HYMN FOR MAY DAY.**

"These things shall be; a loftier race Than e'er the world hath known shall rise, With flame of freedom in their souls And light of knowledge in their eyes. They shall be gentle, brave, and strong To spill no drop of blood, but dare All that may plant man's lordship firm On earth, and fire, and sea, and air. Nation with nation, land with land, Unarmed shall live as comrades free; In every heart and brain shall throb The pulse of one fraternity. New arts shall bloom, of loftier mould, And mightier music thrill the skies; And every life shall be a song, When all the earth is paradise." John Addington Symonds.