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 movement during the past year. But ion branches to take active interest in 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by us all," said the report, "that the conventional pre-war viewpoint and activities of orthodox Labour Parties are out of date, and the need everywhere for a body of Socialists such as the League aspires to be, abreast of the times, with a revolutionary outlook based on the clearest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 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.

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