## THE INTERNATIONAL

THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

P.O. BOX 4179.

6 Frades Hall, Rissik Street.

Johannesburg.

No. 110



FRIDAY, NOV. 16, 1917.

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

## The Great Events in Russia

The cable news regarding the revolution in Russia is so confusing and every day so contradictory that it is hopeless attempting to build on them. The Maxlimalist wing of the Social Democratic Party has been gaining strength since the political revolution. Vast propaganda work has been done. One Socialist paper is mentioned as circulating 250,000 copies daily in Petrograd. All Capitalist journalists were resigned to what they considered the inevitable triumph of the Maximalists, and the growing power of the Council of Workmen. (Note the avidity with which Capitalist journalists grab at words like "The Sowiet" and "Maximalists," which hide the working class character of these organisations).

The immediate issue on which Kerensky has broken with the Maximalists seems to be the authority of the Council of Workmen (The Soviet). Lenin and the Social Democrats recognise in the Council the great instrument of Social Revolution, the embryo of the new order that is going to supplant the Capitalist State. To the Capitalists and their "Socialist" hirelings the Council is naturally a menace.

Kerensky has also failed to fulfil his promises to confiscate the land and restore it to the peasants. And the shortage of bread has also precipated things. Kerensky's association with Korniloff places him in the light of a betrayer of his great promise. Indeed he is charged with having been a secret accomplice of Korniloff in his late rebellion. Be that as it may, he had evidently become the tool of the Capitalist reaction.

The Capitalist lie factory has been busy with regard to Russia. Riga fell by arrangement with the Germans. That was deliberately planned by Korniloff. He is the German agent.

The Russian offensive in July did not fail because of regimental committees, as the Military commanders cabled. That was a lie endorsed by the Provisional Government to discredit the revolutionary committees. The reverse was the case. Out of a battalion of 6,000, 2,000 Russian soldiers were left dead on the field. This was the crime of Kerensky, who hurled them at the Germans to please American finance.

No wonder that the Social Democrats gained power. Now the abuse and filth of Capitalist journalism is being poured without restraint on Lenin and his party. But we trow that his party by this is the Russian proletariat itself. The latest cable states that the Eoreign Embassies are leaving Petrograd. Russia under Social Democratic leadership will be outlawed by the Governments of Europe.

'For Peace, Bread, and the Power of the People,' was the watchword of the bloodless revolution accomplished by the Maximalists. All the blood that has been spilt is due to the counter-revolution. Now all the atrocities of the calendar are being attributed to the workmen of Petrograd. But we doubt not that, as in the Paris Commune, when the workmen gave a lofty example of humanity, but were massacred by the Capitalist troops, in Petrograd also the proletariat will vindicate the generous, humane order of the Red Flag, and any atrocities that occur will

workers. The Capitalist papers admit that they took possession without disorder. But should the Social Democrats fail, we can expect the most bloody massacre of the workingmen of Petrograd that history has ever recorded. Long live the Social Revolution, the light from the East.

be due to those who seek to crush the

Sunny South Africa.

At the mass meeting of the Tailors on strike at Capetown recently, Mr. Gamiet, secretary of the Union, in dealing with a statement that £3 10s. 4d. was earned by one of the hands, said if; for the sake of argument, that was a fact, it would be to the firm's advantage to accept the maximum of 23 asked for by the Union, as in that case they would be saving 10s. 4d. per week in each case. (Laughter). As a man who ought to know, he could say that in no single instance did a girl earn £25s. per week in making shorts? It has been omitted to state that there was another girl who shares this amount. The fact was that two girls were earning this amount, and that by working overtime all the week.

Mr. Gamiet then called to the platform boys and girls, whose ages ranged from 12 years to 14 years, earning from 3s. 6d. to 6s. per week. In the case of one girl who lived at Maitland, a trousers machinist, her wages was 5s. per week, out of which she paid 2s. per week for train fares. The hours worked were from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., with one hour for dinner.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT STOCKHOLM.

According to "The Call," an attempt is being made by the Russian-Dutch-Scandinavian Committees to get the Stockholm Conference to meet next January.

## "When Dawn's Left Hand was in the Sky."

There is a story told of an ancient Boer who, during the late Anglo-Boer war, found himself in a tight corner. He decided to pray and commenced his prayer thus wise: 'O Lord,' said he, 'we're in a Hell of a mess,' after which statement of the case he put up quite a good prayer for deliverance.

To-day the Capitalist class proclaims to the world "we're in a hell of a mess," but they have no one to turn to for deliverance.

They have installed the legal ineubus.

They have decreed themselves honours and their defenders emoluments.

They have burned incense before their own shrine.

They have sung paeans of praise in their own honour.

In the name of the great God Kapital they have commanded all to fall down and worship their putrid institutions and rotten glories.

But the slaves slowly rouse from their long sleep and rub their eyes. They notice the fetters, which hitherto they had thought golden, to be of the rudest iron. They feel the chafe of the chains and see the misery of their lot. Their moaning becomes a threatening growl. Kapital becomes shifty eyed and afraid.

The past is written in letters of blood and fire and cannot be wiped out.

Silvery tongued orators raise their voices at the word of command, still are not the slaves not appeared.

Scribes with sublimest gifts of language pour forth their effusions in defence of the festering system—the growl changes to a roar. Tub thumping Demagogues labelled "Labour" waste their frenzied utterances on unheeding ears. And the sun of the rising day throws its first early beams across the sky. It is a new dawn.

SEN YAH.

## League Picnic.

An A.S.L. Picnic has been organised for next Sunday to be held near the Zoo Lake. All comrades are invited with their friends. Bring your own refreshments, but tea provided. A sports programme has been drawn up by the Committee for old, middling, young and toddling, which will take all day. Roll up!