

THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT

Socialism, Internationalism, Votes for All.

Vol. IV.—No. 30

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 1917

Price One Penny

SOLDIERS ASK WHAT THEY ARE FIGHTING FOR.

1914—1917.

HUSHED are the silvery notes that filled the world
With peace; those tiny throats that once could
ring
A chord of human gladness now are hurled
Before its heedless pace, no more to sing.
On, on it comes, across the wasted sheaves,
The furrow that was once a sparkling stream;
And in its trail, a darkened cloud, that weaves
A spell of terror—some incarnate dream.
For War—the very name embodies Hell—
With unrestrained passion, sweeps the sky
To torture man, and sound the solemn knell
Of Death, spurning a woman's piteous cry.
Man cleaves the heart of man. The dying sob
Of those who, broken, lie, remains unheard,
Crushed by a cannon's roar. The awful throb
Of some inhuman missile has but stirred
This carnage into some more ghastly form,
And Love lies slain by those who deemed her all.

But look! A tiny spark of hope remains
Among the ashes of a world's despair;
And in that gleam, unsullied by the stains,
The lusts of war, there lies an answered prayer.
The stream flows on, tho' crimsoned by the blood
Of guiltless men. And o'er the azure seas,
The echoes of a thousand voices flood
The world with tidings of a new born peace,
The fellowship of man. And it shall bring
New hope, new life, new love, new everything.

DONALD E. MILNER.

PRIVATE C—, R.F.A., writes from "Somewhere in France":—

"It is high time the Government told the people what our aims are and what we are fighting for. Nine out of every ten men I have talked with on the subject do not know. You will no doubt be surprised when I tell you that on Monday evening next I am having a debate with another fellow on this subject, and I am moving the following motion:—

That we assembled here declare that the time has now arrived for the Government to state publicly its aims in the war; furthermore to define the precise terms on which Germany can have peace. I am assured of a jolly good audience as hundreds of men are eagerly interested in the discussion."

A young British military airman, writing from France to Mrs. Clara Cole, says:—

"As the war continues, I feel more and more the vital importance of your aims, and only wish the whole world would realise the value of that doctrine which you speak of in your preface. It is a noble

BAKEWELL WOMEN AND PROFITEERS

THE women of Bakewell are making a determined stand against the increase in the retail price of milk. A big protest meeting of women was held at which it was decided to do all that was possible to thwart the intention of the milk retailers to raise the price of milk to 5d. and subsequently to 6d. per quart, the pre-war price being 3½d. It was urged that the farmers of Bakewell were taking "an undue advantage" of the maximum price fixed for milk. Mr. Joseph Mellor, a member of the Bakewell Urban Council and also the local Food Control Committee, showed by the following data that any increase in price was merely extortionate: In pre-war times the cost of keeping five cows in Bakewell was as follows: Men's labour, for attendance, &c., £54 12s.; rent of land at two guineas per acre, £31 10s.; rates, £7 10s.; foodstuffs, £25; loss by wear and tear, £25; labour for harvest, £15; interest on capital, £10; total, £168 12s. Now the present war estimated cost was made up as follows for five cows: Men's labour, &c. £78; rent, £31 10s.; rates, £7 10s. (these two items being unchanged); foodstuffs, £37; loss by wear and tear, £50; labour for harvest, £20; interest on capital, £20; total, £244 10s. In pre-war times these five cows would produce on an average 1,000 gallons of milk each, and at the old price of 3d. per quart left a profit of £81 8s. Now, with war-time the rise of milk in October would amount to £41 13s., and the December rise would be £125. The total profit he had worked out at £255, which gave a profit of £51 for each cow. The women present pledged themselves to purchase only half their usual milk supplies; if this had not the desired result more drastic action would be taken. They are determined at all costs to keep down the price of the children's chief food. We hope they will be successful and that others will take example from their brave stand.

thing to strive for, and although, in the earlier days of the war, I did not comprehend the ghastliness of it all, I now fully sympathise with that cause for which you fight. The other night, as I looked towards the western horizon, the beauty and calmness of the trees, which stood against the wondrous background of the afterglow, greatly impressed me. It was—for a moment—peace, but the contrast which the other surroundings produced was too great, and, unable to bear the thoughts of former happy days, I returned into the abnormal state in which we are bound to live. I dare not think too long of that which might have been. I am bound by one undying longing for peace, and until it comes I can but live in restless anxiety."

A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR in the Non-Combatant Corps writes:—

"We have an officer, a major, a sergeant, and about six N.C.O.s to look after us and there are other men in higher ranks. It finds a nice soft

job for those men to look after such harmless people as we. We work in gangs and of course we must have a N.C.O. to watch us. It would not be military without, and the officer and other officials properly at play. What a splendid organisation the N.C.C. is! I expect the people will be asked to pay for this after the war. I am a ratepayer myself, and it will be very annoying to one who knows what he is asked to pay for. I think it is time that the people woke up and made some inquiries into the business. They will know when it is too late."

Of Special Interest This Week!

OUR REPLY TO LLOYD GEORGE.



MILITARISM TO BRITANNIA—"Madam, I want more, that I may protect you from this Tyrant."

(Prussian Militarism may be reflected in our own).

THE WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION

To secure a Vote for every Woman and Man of full age, and to win Social and Economic Freedom for the People on the basis of a Socialist Commonwealth.

Entrance Fee—1d.

Minimum Subscription—1d. a Month.

Central Office: 400 Old Ford Road, London, E.3
 Hon. Secretary: Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.
 Hon. Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Minnie Lansbury.
 Hon. Financial Secretary: Miss Norah Smyth.

Address Correspondence on:—

Meetings, to Mrs. Bouvier,
 W.S.F. Branches, Miss P. Lynch.
 "Dreadnought," Miss O'Callaghan.
 Other Literature, Miss Bush.

The W.S.F. appeals for members and workers and invites friends to visit its offices and social institutions. CENTRAL OFFICE: 400 Old Ford Road, London, E.3.

THE MOTHERS' ARMS: 438 Old Ford Road, E.3. Mother and Doctors' Consultations and Baby Weighing, Mondays 2.30 P.M. Infant Clinic and Day Nursery, 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.

MONTESSORI SCHOOL: 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. (by appointment with Miss Muriel Matters) at the Mothers' Arms.

THE WOMEN'S HALL: 20 Railway Street (opposite South Bromley Station on the North London Railway). Mother and Infant Clinic, Doctors' Consultations and Baby Weighing, Mondays and Thursdays at 2.30 P.M. Cost Price Restaurant, &c.

53 ST. LEONARD'S STREET, BROMLEY: Mother and Infant Clinic, Literature depot, &c. Doctors' Consultations and Baby Weighing, Friday, 10.30 A.M. COST PRICE RESTAURANT: 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.3., and 20 Railway Street, Poplar.

ST. STEPHEN'S SHOP: 85 Hoxton Street, off Old Street, off Shoreditch. Literature on Communism, Feminism, Internationalism, Socialism.

CO-OPERATIVE TOY INDUSTRY: By appointment with Miss Norah Smyth.

THE WORKERS' CHOIR: Applications for Membership of Mrs. Herebergova, 45 Norman Road, E. Director and Conductor, Mr. Harold Cooper.
 SOCIALIST SUNDAY SCHOOL: 20 Railway Street, Poplar. Sunday Afternoons, 3 P.M.

FEDERATION NOTES

BIG PUSH.

On Saturday a very good Peace meeting was held at the Grove, Stratford. Mrs. Walker in a very impressive speech dealt with the Alsace Lorraine Question, and told her large and interested audience that in 1870 the Government of this country was in sympathy with Prussia, and that the English children in the Channel Islands of which Mrs. Walker is a native, were encouraged to insult their French school-fellows by shouting "Vive la Prusse." A good collection was taken and literature was sold and distributed.

PEACE PICKETS.

On Sunday morning a Peace Banners Parade was held outside Westminster Abbey and Cathedral. Outside the latter the banner "Support the Pope's Move for Peace" made a deep impression. The following characteristic remarks were overheard: "This is the best and cleverest thing I have yet seen, you are not Roman Catholics, for if you were, you would not have the courage to come here" (this by a woman); "This kind of thing would drag the Roman Catholic Church in the Socialist movement; go away, we have come to Mass, we don't want Peace" (this by a man, well over military age who viciously snatched away one of the banners). More volunteers for Peace Parades will be welcome.

BRANCHES.

MEETINGS are held every Monday evening at 400, Old Ford Road, at 8 P.M. A very interesting series of lectures has been arranged, and we hope that members will make them known as widely as possible. Bow members are urged to attend in good time, as it is proposed to discuss Bow Branch business at the commencement of the meetings. Miss Tollemache will be present to receive subscriptions.

The Thursday evening At Homes have been transferred from the Emerson Club to 29b, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C. Copies of the Postcard Syllabus may be obtained from this Office. We wish members to use these as postcards in corresponding with friends.

On Monday night Mrs. Cedar Paul gave an interesting lecture on 'Militarism and Birth Control', illustrated by charts and a map showing the growth of population in the European countries since the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71. An animated discussion followed, and some of the questions which were raised drew from our lecturer the promise to come again and deal with another aspect of the same question. The attendance was fairly good and members and friends are urged to have a good muster next Monday when Miss Sylvia Pankhurst

OUR FUNDS.

Donations to be sent to the Hon. Financial Secretary, Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.3. All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.3.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.—Miss Ethel Lowy (10s. mthly.), £1; A. J. Marriot, Esq. (quarterly), 5s.; Miss Bush, 5s.; Miss Douglas, 1s. COLLECTIONS: Mrs. Walker (two), £1 4s. 2d.; General Meeting, 3s. 7½d.; Osborn Street, 1s. 8d.

"DREADNOUGHT" FUND.—Mr. and Mrs. Roden Buxton, 25; Mrs. C. E. Payne, £2; J. Leakey, Esq., £1 10s.; J. D. Pearce, Esq., £1 1s.; Mrs. Baillie-Weaver, £1; Miss Merritt (Card), 10s.; Mr. Everett (Card), 7s.; Miss P. Anderson, 5s.; Miss L. Bent, 2s. 6d.

DREADNOUGHT GUARANTEE FUND.—Previously acknowledged, £2 13s. 3d. MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—Nurse Ward, £2 5s. 10d.; per Miss Weir, £1 10s.; Nurse Hobbes (weekly), 10s.; Mrs. Kinsey Peile, 5s.; Miss A. Goodall, 5s.; Mr. W. J. Randall, 5s.; Mrs. E. M. Morrison (monthly), 5s. COLLECTIONS: L.S.A. Toolroom, £1 9s. 1½d.; Misses K. and E. Lagsding, T. Barker, and Mrs. Bertram (Greens Yard and Cubitt Town), 14s. 1½d.; Bow Road Theosophical Club, 1s.

WHAT'S ON?

W.S.F. FIXTURES.

OUTDOOR.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th. Meetings at 3 P.M. and 7 P.M. See "Great Push."

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21st. Osborn Street, Whitechapel, 11.30 A.M., Mrs. Walker.

Highbury Corner (United Socialist Council Meeting), 12 noon, Mrs. Bouvier.

Hyde Park, Marble Arch, 3.30 P.M., Mrs. Butler, Finsbury Park, 3.30 P.M., Mrs. Walker.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27th. Meetings at 12 (noon) and 3 P.M. See "Great Push."

and Mr. Ph. Frankford will be the speakers. Miss N. L. Smyth in the chair. It will be a dark night.—J. A. B.

On Sunday afternoon a meeting was held on Hampstead Heath. Mrs. Walker was the speaker. The audience was a mixed one, consisting of wounded soldiers and officers and Trade Unionists, who were conspicuous by their Trade Union badge. The subject was 'Socialism and Votes for All,' also the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. Mrs. Walker portrayed for her audience what was to be seen in East London—little, poorly-clad, bootless children buying coals at 7 lbs. a time, and how scandalous it was for the Government to raise the price of coal, which means the children's health will suffer through lack of warmth. Eighty-six *Dreadnoughts* were sold, 30s. collection—27s. in silver, 3s. in coppers. The first to throw a shilling in the ring was a taxi-driver. A sergeant in khaki made the collection up to 30s. by adding 3s.—M. W.

LEYTON AT HOME.

THE At Home organised by the Leyton W.S.F. at 42 Forest Lane, was greatly enjoyed. There was a delightful children's pageant, arranged by Miss Bridges and Miss Gallop. Miss Dorothy Matthews and Nellie Enefer recited, and pianoforte solos and duets were given by Miss Lagsding, Miss Shaw and Miss Ethel Smith. Speeches by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and Mr. Edward Fuller were heard with great attention. A profit of 12s. was made. Leyton members gave the tea and Mrs. Brimley, Mrs. Shaw and others gave great help in many ways. Hon. Sec., Mrs. Hart, 73 Calderon Road, Leyton.

HOLLOWAY.

HOLLOWAY W.S.F. had a very successful meeting on Monday, October 15th, at the Co-operative Hall, 144 Seven Sisters Road, N. After formal Branch business an able address was given by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, who mentioned the difficulties *The Dreadnought* had gone through in being held up by the authorities. The Branch passed the following resolution: "That this meeting of the W.S.F. condemns the action of the authorities in suppressing *The Dreadnought*, and wishes to know the reason. A copy of this resolution is to be sent to the Home Secretary and Prime Minister. At our next meeting we are going to consider the advisability of affiliating with the Local Trades and Labour Party. We intend to have a strong live branch in Holloway. Two new members joined the Branch, and we hope others will follow. A. CAVE, Hon. Sec."

OLD COCKNEY FAIR.

THE first meeting of the Old Cockney Fair Committee, was held on Monday, October 15th, at 5 P.M., at 29b, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C. Miss Tollemache was elected Secretary to the Committee.

INDOOR.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22nd. 53, St. Leonard's Street, 2.30 P.M., Miss Horshall. Bow Women's Hall, 8 P.M., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, 'The Present Outlook,' Mr. Ph. Frankford, 'The Coming Day.' Chair, Miss N. L. Smyth.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25th. 29b, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 3.30 P.M., Signor Silvio Corio, 'Italy and the War.' Chair: Mrs. Bouvier. St. Stephen's Shop, 85, Hoxton Street, 8.30 P.M., Miss Horshall.

LEEDS.

LEEDS.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hunter, 7 Sugdenfold, Armley. Branch meeting, Clarion Café, Tuesdays, 8 P.M. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 104.

INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS EDUCATION.

Class in -

ECONOMICS & INDUSTRIAL HISTORY,

TO BE HELD AT WATER LANE HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, STRATFORD, E.,

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A postcard to secretary will bring a member of Committee to your branch meeting to explain object of class.

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MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

FAMILY LIMITATION DOCTRINE. Post free, 1½d.—Malthusian League, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster.

SUFFRAGE WORKERS should spend their holidays at "Sea View," Victoria Road, Brighton. Hostess, Miss Turner.

TO LET—HALL for meetings, &c., holds 60. Terms moderate.—Apply Miss Beamish, St. Stephen's Shop, 85 Hoxton Street, N.

TYPEWRITING REQUIRED at home; MSS. and Plays; Duplicating accurately done. Terms on application.—Apply Miss A. O. Beamish, 85 Hoxton Street.

Capable Experienced Workroom Supervisor wanted.—Apply Toy Factory, 45 Norman Road, Bow, E.3.

ANTIQUES

For Genuine Old English Furniture and China

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IMPORTANT.

We gladly call the attention of our readers to the East London class in 'Industrial History', of which full particulars appear in our advertisement columns. This class is organised by a committee of Trade Unionists and members of the B.S.P., I.L.P., and W.S.F. It is the first step towards starting in East London such classes as those which the Central Labour College provided for its students during recent years, and which students of the C.L.C. have carried into South Wales with such successful results in arousing the workers as to have called forth the bitter resentment of *The Times*.

IS LANCASHIRE RUSSIA?

A RUSSIAN who left London some time ago to return to Russia writes from Lancashire as follows:—"You are of course aware that our party of Russians has been here for two weeks now 'waiting for a boat.' We leave this camp to-night probably for Newcastle. On the 29th ult. we went on board ship at Liverpool, but after a few days we had to abandon this ship as she was foul end to end. That our ship was torpedoed and set on fire are only rumours; there is no truth in them."

JOIN OUR GREAT PUSH FOR PEACE! SOCIALISM! VOTES FOR ALL!

ORGANISED BY THE WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION, 400 OLD FORD ROAD, E.3.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th, KENSAL RISE.—Meet 2.45 p.m. at 10 MILMAN ROAD, WEST KILBURN (No. 6 Bus from Bishopsgate). Secretary for the day: Mrs. EDWARDS, 30 Clifford Gardens, N.W.10. Meetings: 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. BIRCH, Mrs. BOUVIER, Mrs. WALKER, Mr. H. G. RUSSELL.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27th, SOUTH EAST DISTRICT.—Meet at 11.30 a.m. and at 2.30 p.m. at 85 CAMBERWELL GROVE. Secretary for the day: Mrs. COLE, 85 Camberwell Grove. Meetings: 12 (noon) and 3 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. BIRCH, Mrs. BOUVIER, Miss LYNCH, Mrs. WALKER.

Printed by J. E. Francis, 11 and 13 Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.4, and Published by the Workers' Suffrage Federation, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.3.