

MANIFESTO:

THE INDUSTRIAL UNION OF DIRECT ACTIONISTS.

BEING A COMPLETE STATEMENT OF THE PRINCIPLES AND
POLICY OF THE UNION IN RELATION TO ALL OTHER
REVOLUTIONARY BODIES AND THE
GOVERNMENTAL MACHINE.

ONE PENNY.

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1907.

To the Wage-Slaves of the World.

From the rapidly growing spirit of unrest in the Labour movement at home and abroad, and the bitter complaints to be heard in all countries at the historic failure of Parliamentary methods, it has been evident for some time past that the old principle of Trade Unionism would have to be consigned to the vortex of oblivion. Whatever economic grounds may at one time have justified its existence, the Trade Unionism that but perpetuates the present system and serves only to create an aristocracy of Labour, must be superseded by an Industrial Unionism that is based on the principle of the international solidarity of Labour as being the only method of ensuring the freedom of the world.

The world, intellectually and economically, is in a state of transition. Side by side with the decay of sects and sectarianism the observer notes the failure of class Trade Union—i.e., Unions that seek to benefit one class of workmen at the expense of another. The highly developed method of capitalist production necessitates a growing tendency on the part of Labour to solidarity, modern methods of production serving more and more to reduce the skilled workman to the ranks of the unskilled. And in opposition to the exploitation resulting from over-production on the one hand and unequal distribution on the other, pure and simple Unionism and political Socialism have nothing to offer. Indeed, the very agencies that were to have secured the worker's freedom have served, and are serving, only to secure his fetters.

Feeling, therefore the need to organise the workers on a

revolutionary economic basis, and recognising in Direct Action and the Social General Strike the only weapons of emancipation, the I.U.D.A. comes into the field of working-class organisation and declares itself opposed to all political parties, whether nominally Socialistic or avowedly capitalistic, and to all Trade Unions which do not found their organisation upon the fighting basis of Direct Action.

James Russel Lowell once wrote:—

“New occasions teach new duties,
Time makes ancient good uncouth;
They must upward still and onward,
Who would keep abreast of Truth!”

In the altered economic conditions we find our new duties; the old good to be found in the beginnings of Trade Unionism is now but a tradition so far as the majority of members of present-day English Trade Unions are concerned; the Conservative and immoral patriotic basis of many such Unions betray an acquaintance with economics which is sorry, and the need to elevate the workers bids the revolutionary who would be upward still and onward declare war on the Unionism which would have the workers remain in the quagmire of wage-slavery.

The time for palliation is past, and the period of emancipation is at hand. Affirming its opposition to all bodies that would have the workers rely on a Providence that exists not, or trust to the hypocrisy of Parliamentary brigandage, the I.U.D.A. boldly proclaims its anti-militarist aims and avers its intention to organise the workers on a fighting basis. Whilst willing to accept whatever palliatives capitalism likes to grant, it refuses to haul down the red flag of revolt until the freedom of the world is obtained.

It therefore appeals, with confidence, to the support of the workers of all grades, bidding them remember that emancipation to be real and effective must be, not a gift, but a conquest. The importance of this arduous task of thus organising the workers being paramount, and the need for funds—if the propaganda is to be placed on a fighting basis—being obvious, it is hoped that the workers will not only support the I.U.D.A. with their presence at its meetings, but will also become active and paying members.

A. RAY,
F. GOULDING,
F. LARGE,
C. LAHR,
H. MORRIS,
S. CARLYLE PORTER,
T. G. BEAVAN,
T. N. MELINSKY,
J. SCHUMMER,
ELIZABETH LECHMERE.

Group Secretaries.

C. MOWBRAY, C. DELAHUNTY (The "Irish Rebel")
and V. RAMAGE.—*Organisers.*

GUY A. ALDRED.—*Gen. Sec.*

Policy and Organisation.

Founded to unite on the decentralised but interlinked basis of solidarity, the I.U.D.A. seeks to organise the workers—skilled and unskilled alike—into geographical groups. Taking its stand as a revolutionary class-conscious industrial organisation, the I.U.D.A. refuses to recognise the sub-divisions of Labour, but pledges itself to act and organise on the principles of the Local and Social General Strikes. It accordingly disdains the friendly Society basis of the ordinary Trade Unions, and proclaims its antagonism to their compromising principles and cap-in-hand and mutually blacklegging policy. It not only insists, therefore, on the need to overthrow the officialdom of these Unions, but will itself provide neither sick, unemployed, nor death pay to its members or their relatives. Recognising, however, the necessity of educating the workers in the principles of economic revolt, it aims primarily at devoting its funds to the promotion of its propaganda, but seeks, secondly, to provide strike pay. As Labour's ultimate success turns upon its refusal to accept the Capitalist's financial test of strength, and its willingness to force him to do battle on the economic plane, and, where necessary, to expropriate his wealth—the surplus value of which Labour has been robbed. And since Governments but exist to conserve the Capitalists' interests, and legal Trade Union tactics can avail the workers nothing against the master class, it makes no apology for advocating a direct course the taking of which alone can elevate the struggle between

the possessing parasites and their dispossessed slaves into a class war.

Passing to the details of organisation and method of grouping on a decentralised basis, it can be seen that not only will each group exercise perfect local autonomy, but the interlinking of the groups will be on the principle of free federation and mutual aid. Whilst contributing (at least) one penny per week for each group member to the funds of the central group it will collect and distribute its own funds, publishing, however, a balance sheet. There will be no executive, although it is proposed to make the central group a kind of Federal Council. All questions to be voted on to be sent round to the groups, the number of *pro.*'s and *con.*'s being returned to the general secretary, who will publish the figures for each group, and the total votes. The list of questions will then be sent round to be voted on a second time, in order to ensure accuracy of votes, and as small a minority as possible. By this means it is proposed to strike a blow at the "rights" of delegated authority.

Directory.

Where a comrade's name and address only is given, without the intimation secretary, the comrade in question sympathises with our aims, and is desirous of hearing from other sympathisers with a view to forming a group.

CENTRAL GROUP.—Guy A. Aldred, general secretary, 133 Goswell Road, E.C. V. Ramage, organiser, 23B Peabody Buildings, E.C.

DIRECTORY—continued.

INTERNATIONAL EAST END GROUP.—H. Morris, secretary, 22 Buckle Street, E.

LAMBETH.—A. Ray, 39 Overy Buildings, Webber Road, Southwark, S.E.

PLAISTOW, E.—F. Goulding, secretary, 10 Gordon Road, Manor Park, E; C. Mowbray, organiser, 10 Victoria Place, Barking Road, Plaistow, E.

WALTHAMSTOW.—F. Large, secretary, 164 Fulbourne Rd. Walthamstow.

WALWORTH.—J. Schummer, 11A, Pollock Road, New Kent Road, S.E.

WHITECHAPEL.—C. Lahr, secretary, 5. Great Prescott Street, E.

DOVER.—S. Carlyle Potter, "Sea View," East Studdale, West Dover.

LEEDS.—T. N. Melinsky, secretary, 34 Meanwood Road, Leeds. Branch meetings are held every Monday, 8.30 p.m. at 34 Meanwood Road. All comrades from Central Ward are cordially invited.

LIVERPOOL.—T. G. Beavan, secretary, 2 Claypole Street, Earle Road.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Miss Elizabeth Lechmere, "Sea View," 8, Salisbury Terrace.

Meetings.

Meetings are convened by the London Groups, at Marble Arch, on Saturday evenings, at 7.30; Tanswell Street, Southwark, 11.30 a.m., Hoxton Church, N.E., 11.30 a.m., and Mile

MEETINGS—*continued*:

End Waste (outside Assembly Hall) at 7.30 p.m., Sunday; and on Monday evenings at Garnault Place, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.

The Liverpool Group hold meetings at the Wellington Column, 7.30 p.m., and at Birkenhead Park, 8.30 p.m., Sunday; and every Thursday evening, at St. Domingo Road, at 8.30 p.m.

I.U.D.A. Lectures.

Trade Unions, Socialist Bodies, and other organisations desirous of learning more of our principles should communicate with the General Secretary, who will arrange for one or more of the following lecturers to visit their centres:—

Guy A. Aldred, A. Ray, V. Ramage, H. Morris, C. Mowbray, Carl Quinn, Mat Kavanagh, Charles Delahunty, T. G. Beavan, Marsden, Dupres, Ennis, and Fairbrother.

The Bakunin Press.

The following Pamphlets, will be published periodically:—

By ARNOLD ROLLER.—The Social General Strike.
Direct Action.

By S. CARLYLE POTTER.—From Wagedom to Capitalism
The Futility of Parliamentary Politics.

By GUY A. ALDRED—Tactics that Tell.
Socialism and Government.
Historical and Traditional Christianity.
Christianity and the Workers.
What Constitutes Freethought?
From Christian Platform to Anarchist Rostrum.
etc., etc, etc.

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