## THE INTERNATIONAL.

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## 170 Million Recruits.

The Socialist International has become a far more tremendous thing by the Russian Revolution. It means that a people of 170 million has swung into line with the great proletariat of all countries, on its march to the Revolution by the side of which this and all previous ones are but "shopkeeper's riots" in immensity.

J. M. G. ably explains in another column the economic factors which have made this revolution possible. But while it is necessary to warn the workers of the partial value only to them of the conquest of political rights, the importance of this step forward in the world's history can hardly be exaggerated. The rising capitalist class cannot achieve its political revolution without the aid of the workers, nor without sharing the fruits with them. The capitalist looks only to the immediate necessities of industry, no matter if his successors have to reap the whirlwind. The proletariat must look to the end; for in its fight the means and the end, the method and the objective, are at one. The Capitalist seeks a political railroad for his system. He cannot win it without providing a railroad to the working class revolution.

We see two streams in this, as in all previous revolution. The Industrial Capitalist cry is now "ORDER." The proletarian driving power cries "Liberty." But the workers having won their "Programme of the Day", and the Capitalist the control of the State, the two streams immediately disunite and the class war begins on the last lap to the Socialist Revolution. Now is the dangerous hour. Now the dominant capitalist cry will be "order," and it will be enforced at the cannon's mouth if necessary, "tearing the side of the proletariat", as Marx once said, if the workers are not organised independently and strong to bear the shock of the recoil.

But it seems to us that the Russian workmen, are so organised in the industrial centres. The independent existence of a "Council of Workmen" dictating terms all night to the Duma; scotching the Regency scheme; sanctioning capitalist control meanwhile, knowing that it has not the material means at hand (namely highly organised industry and a highly organised industrial workingclass), to push forward yet to the Socialist Revolution; sending back troop trains bound to suppress the revolution;—all this augurs a working-class conscious of its mission, and recognising this as a half-way house to it.

Only Russians can feel the thrill of the wonderful deliverance involved in a free press, free speech, and political liberty. Note, however that the right to combine is won as a result of the workers combining.

This is a bourgeois revolution, but arriving when the night of capitalism is far spent. It cannot be a mere repetition of previous revolutions. It partakes infinitely more of a victory for the proletariat, as well as for the industrial capitalist. Now the two classes pursue their several ways; one

"to prosecute the war abroad" and "law and order" at home; the other to pursue the class war at home and "the Socialist Republic in all countries." Let us look forward with great hope to the entry of the Russian elemental mass into the International class struggle for human emancipation. The day of its coming seems immeasurably nearer by this awakening.

## The Witch Doctor Again.

The Bishop of Preteria has not killed enough Bosches, so he is economically conscripting his poor curates to the front. Last Sunday he announced that about forty of them would be "released for service as combatants," or to do any other war work, such as chop wood.

At one of the Church Committee meetings convened to endorse the scheme as Comrade in the League was the only dissentient. Some of the poor men "who had to vote with the majority" came and shook hands with her after the meeting; but implored her not to ask them questions. The Church is dead, and the Witch Doctor rattles her skeleton thus:—

"I and my Father Kapital are one. Whosoever believeth in me believeth in Father Kapital also.

I am the Good Shepherd, the Good Shepherd getteth his living from the sheep.

Behold the fields are red for the slaughter, and the murderers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of Slaughter that he send more murderers into his harvest.

Go your ways: behold I send you forth as curates one bishops.

among bishops.

Carry neither purse nor scrip nor conscience, but bayonet and bandolier; and salute no man, but your officers, by the way.

For he that humbleth himself before Kapital shall be exalted, but they that do not my word shall be sacked into outer darkness.

Combatant Corp of Curates, in-the-name-of-the-Meek-and-Lowly-Jesus: Shoulderr ARMS!

## The Coming of May Day.

May Day is drawing near, and it is proposed to make a big effort to give it a worthy greeting in South Africa this year. The May Day Committee has already met, and it has been decided to set apart next Sunday week for a general rally at the Johannesburg Trades Hall in the evening, to emphasize the great significance of International May Day to the workers of the world, and to form a strong committee of all those to whom the festival is dear, whether inside or outside the League; in order to carry through a good programme for the day.

The May Day Committee propose to issue a leaflet before and on May Day pointing the way of Internationalism to the people. And a grand Social Evening in the evening will be preceded by an open air demonstration at which speakers of every possible nationality, race and colour will be asked to speak.

In this year of the Russian Revolution, in which the working class has been such a big factor, let us make this a May Day to be remembered. Roll up to the Sunday night rally on April 1st.