

A3424 / B1.49.4.3

Organⁿ in gHB under Montreal law - Quinn

[Quinn to J. V. M. 15 Jan 1914 (27)]

* local committees for all sorts of ~~things~~ purposes & the town work
is being well done - "

Postscript

~~Prelude~~ — Increased force nec. — Chaplin.

[Chaplin to G. X. M. 30 July 1913. (164)

Of course Parliament will have to deal with the whole question and foresee that the next session will be almost entirely devoted to it, but I am not quite clear that a special session now would be a good thing. No matter how stringent the legislation passed it will be useless without adequate force. That, I think, is the real question to tackle. If the regular troops were taken away now no-one could say what would happen. We cannot remain indefinitely in that position and I think the Permanent Defence Forces must be appreciably increased. That will be expensive but it is necessary. I cannot

Haynes - false statements - Propaganda.

Klenfateru ske - 80% pehton menais on Road - Conculater
Board called - fuelup ignored.

[JXM to Chaplin 24 Aug. 1913 letterbook p. 12]

Effect. Incr. Anarchist propaganda July 1913 Barry

[M.C. Barry to G.X.M. 25 July 1913 (151)]

distribution of pamphlets.

Ske & elected Commissioner 1913.

big ballot [SARby Magazine Oct 1913 p:989]

~~6~~ ~~overstudy~~ ← [p 1096] 40 nominations [ibid 1097] ✓
everybody a 4. -
24,471 issued
21,281 votes recorded
105 rejected

Railways & Poutsma - Candidacy. ASE support

30 Aug 1913

p. 122

Letter from ASRHS. Asking the A.S.E. to support the
Candidature of Poutsma — referred to the Fedⁿ. Council
are are to report back to the S.A.C.

Burton & Retrenchment in Parliament

[SAR & HS Magazine April 1914 p. 26]

nos of	employed only increasing
1912	411 men dismissed
1911	584 " retrenched.

1914 SKE & SATU.

Chairman's Report on Klenfontein SKE.

SKE spread - + by Govt. interfering with the meeting here on July 4 every other T.U. was pitch forked into the dispute. Govt. thus caused a gen. SKE, wh. found the govt. unprepared. For a few short hours workers were awestruck of the situation. Govt. organised D.F. - brought presse in diff. ways esp. on relgs. didn't rectify griev-ances of the rlymen & their "pressure" culminated in the threat of re-entrainment.

Rly unions cd. be excused, by the fact... practically provoked into it ... seemed to think SKE was only way of remedying their grievances. Sympathy other unions Gen SKE - Pret. & gHB. Branches involved. Govt. didn't try to repair grievances - instead Martial Law reign of terror in Tol. Govt succeeded in co-ercing men to return to work.

1914 SKE & SATU.

Jurisdiction of Branches. 1905

~~1111~~
②

Then Parl. set \pm heaping further indignities on workers
passed bill - disgrace to any Parl. 5 centuries
ago. Right thro' this Bill ed. he saw the
desire to crush T. Usm out of existence. They
knew it can't succeed. The workers wd
continue to claim their right to cease work
& the right to act concertedly.

1914 strike

Events [w. & w.]

- 1) Xmas Eve announcement re commitments w/lys. [p. 47.]
- 2) Martial law declared at once? [p. 48.]
- 3) arrests.
- 4) ballot of unions - delay - but no strike till Prot. went on ^{strike} ~~street~~ 12 Jan - forcing augmented exec. to declare general strike. [p. 48.]
- 5) Bishop of Pretoria with Henry Burton. ~~the~~ latter "out to smash syndicalism & t. unionism"
- 6) strike spread. [p. 49]
- 7) Imperial troops not used [p. 49] - no per from Br. Govt.
- 8) Forced marches with bayonets. [p. 49]
- 9) Johnston meeting in Pretoria [p. 49].
- 10) arrests p. 50-51.
11. Surrender of Trades Hall. night B. [p. 51].

Reps & 1914 SKe - Jan. meeting - Exec. not on agenda.
[SAR & H. Magazine April 1914 p. 306.]

∴ of Tot. & Natal men spoiling for fight -
"Exec. mens. not in "know." - all they got was
"confidential information" & treachery - on which decision
to SKe was based.

Then plea that sitting as a body - impelled by
circumstances & by Pret. men to adopt course.

doesn't believe even 30% of Pret. men pro-SKe.

Again & again - renning men in Cape were hopeless i.e.
want SKe -

not suff. grievances pro-SKe.

national disaster - didn't agree + use of SKe weapon
even if there were grievances.

lack of funds, leaders & again, & lack of unanimity in
diff. Provinces ^{doomed to failure - distances, communication}
resources & govt. vs. them.

1914 SKe ASHRS. — No ballot.

[SAR & Hs Magazine Feb 1914 p. 94]

no previous ballot taken — not crew names enrolled with
ASHRS — & SKe not confined to its mens.

~~Rly SKe 1914 - Spread of it~~

~~[Railway Gazette 16 Jan 1914 p. 57]~~

Pretoria, gIB - Durban, Bloem & even Cape Town Monday 12th
350 men out.

ASE & 1914 strike

[ASEg. jaw 1914 p. 3]

Bro. Freestone, of Capetown, was appointed Secretary to our delegates, and will send a report of the proceedings at a later date, which will be published in the "Monthly" for the information of members.

Bros. Cartner and Metcalfe, the newly-elected Councillors, took their seats on Saturday, and were heartily welcomed by the Chairman.

We are once more in the throes of an industrial dispute, and, at the present time, no one knows where it is likely to end. The Government (?) have called out the Defence (?) Forces of the Union, but these will be of little use if all hands will only stick together and not give them a show. I remember, many years ago, the late President Kruger saying that a tortoise has to put its head out before you can cut it off.

The Federation held a mass meeting on the Market Square, Johannesburg, the scene of the previous trouble. But what a change! No police or troops present, the result being quite an orderly, enthusiastic gathering of about ten thousand people. I wonder what excuse the powers will make now for breaking up the previous meeting.

Well, brothers, I do not know when you will receive this. I trust that the "workers" will have won this fight, and shown the small portion of the community that the larger portion are going to have their say in matters appertaining to their existence, and I also trust that this will prove to all "workers" that it is up to them to strike at the ballot box as well as industrially. If this is done, I have no fear of the result.

Organise, organise industrially and politically, to beat our common foe, so that laws can be placed on the statute book giving justice and equity to all. Remember, in aiding others you are helping yourselves.

Yours fraternally

GEORGE B. STEER,
Secretary.

11 Jan? Sunday.

Strike 1914: ASE pro. Pretoria. 7. January.

p 201-202

Sp/meeting 7 Jan. 1914.

^{Spec} Sec: "had received wire from Pretoria asking for the Organiser to be sent there at once, after consultation with Chairman ^(C. McIntosh) & Cuthbert was sent.

Cuthbert (1) Hussard (2) that SAC proceed to the Fedl. office to gain information this was done.

Organiser's report over phone from Pret:

agg. meeting held at 5 PM 107 present.
decided if Blyden decided to come out they will support them.

If call is made to site, practically unanimous as far as ASE is concerned.

No information from R H & S.

Decided to have another meeting 7am to-morrow.

Organiser instructed to confirm in writing any phone messages.

Following telegram sent to Rly branches.

202 In the event of a strike being declared our members in Pretoria will unanimously support decided at aggregate meeting Pret. this afternoon.

Kendall instructed to send in a daily written report.

Ske - A.S.E. 8 Jan. (Thursday) Pret. + Rley Branches all over pro

p. 202-203

Sp meeting 8 Jan
1914 5:30

Kendall reported at ~~1914~~ 9.15 am on phone +
shops all out, Running staff not out
Aggregate meeting held this morning, permission
requested to take a vote.
Sec. informed Kendall permission was granted.

Teleg. from Bloem.

Bloem memo ready to ske. reply instructions by wire
Sec: See rule 13 clause 7 permission is granted
by Council if reqd.

Teleg E. Randow: Resolved to-night - no drastic
action until gen. Ballot taken harbour also
unanimous.

203

Teleg P.M. Burg:

P.C. ask per. to take Ballot for or vs. a
Strike Rly Dispute.
Sec: per is granted to take vote.

204, 109am
1914 Cord.
meeting)
+ ord. business

Teleg P.M. Burg:

Owing to lack of information from Council &
branchese we postponed Ballot to Sunday,
send all information possible.
Sec: Pret, Ger, Braan & Bloem mechanic
all out.

A.S.E. - Bloem 8th decide to down tools 9th (Friday)

p. 204
10 Jan 1914

Teleg. from Bloemfontein 8th Mass meeting
Bloem's Rly workers to-night decided
unanimously to strike Friday morning 9 Jan.
A.S.E. men unanimous.

9th: Bloem workshops closed: ⁺ leaving staff out.
Transportation coming out.

205. Bloem: send couple live speakers to incite
enthusiasm

reply: no trains except those driven by
scabs. cannot allow anyone to travel by
them

AS-E Durban + JHB. ready to Ballot. 10th (Saturday)

SAC III

10 Jan 19/4
p. 205.

Durban 8 Jan 6.10 pm D.C. request. per to
take ballot for + vs. ske kindly consider
Keep us posted in happening

Pret: letter re Kendall. Sec. to write to ask
Reid why the organisers left Pret.

JHB D.C. per requested to take vote for or vs a
ske if occasion arises at the aggregate
meeting which held on 10th.
per granted.

11th Jan. Market Square Meeting [Sunday] ASE to
attend.

<u>1914 SKe</u>	Meeting in gTB.
10 Jan p. 206.	SNC delegated Messard as their rep for the Market Square meeting on Sunday 11th.
1914.	

1914 Arrests → precipitated gen. strike.

[M.C. Barry to JKM. 13 Jan 1914 No 24].

Many men who were taking a sober view of things, have had their backs put up by these arrests & now say they will strike as a protest against the high-handed & illegal action of the govt.

SATU + 1914 Sko E. RAND.

22 mens at Geo Constable & Co.

28 Firm's attitude

Gave in

Married law etc. [SATg. Feb 1914, p. 3].

downed tools with alacrity but told not to do it again

"By kind per of the police" E.R. Branch held Annual Meeting 7 Feb. [SATg. March 1914 p. 5]

TRADE UNIONS; & AFTER ¹⁹¹³ SKE. NEW ONES.

Printers Assistants Union Pret. [SATA Sept 1913 p. 7.] Also SATU & P. A. U.

Results - Posts & Telegraph Invest.

[M.C. (254) Sir Bisset Berry to J.X.M. 28 Sept - 1913.]

We now have the Post Office staff in high Dudgeon through the persistent ineptitudes of Mr. Watt. The newspaper reports from all over the Union disclose an attitude that is the reverse of friendly. The local men here had a meeting some days ago when they nominated a deputation to interview me on the subject of what further Constitutional steps they could take. The men came and the interview left no room in my mind that these fellows are very wroth and ready for anything. Their chief cause of annoyance at the moment is that the Government while telling them a fortnight ago that their complaints in many respects had been before the Cabinet and had been dealt with, yet declines to tell them what has been decided. The men believe that they are being spoofed.

Posts & Telegraphs.

[Walt to G.M. 12 Oct 1913 M.C. (270)]

...Telegraph and telephone material is v much in demand and goods that were ordered 12 months ago have not yet been received. The result is that many services for wh money is available and wh the public are clamouring for cannot be put in hand. The P.M.G. tells me that he doubts whether he will have a single telephone pole to spare after completion of the work in hand, but I have instructed him to enquire and if there are any to spare to let your friend Mr. Rabie have them. The (the P.M.G. went to C.T. last evening and I will then see to the matter. When on this subject I may add that as we can't get our material in England I have told Solomon that he must get it in Germany or elsewhere.

The Postal and Telegraph clerks at the Cpae are v skilful agitators. Their so-called Exec. meets in C.T. and passes a resolution demanding some concessions and stigmatising the departmental attitude as evasive and provocative and hands it to the press. At the same time the Sec. moves at every centre in the Province calling the local mems of the Assocn to support the exec wh they promptly do. The public then reads that "A mass meeting of postal employers has been held of- when amidst excitement the following resolution was unanimously carried" in blissful ignorance of the fact that the mass meeting consisted of perhaps only 3 or 4 youngsters.

The microbe of unrest is to be found everywhere and as you say it seems as if the world is going mad. The fir will pass off I have no doubt and we must try so to manage as not in the meantime to let the permanent interests of the country suffer.

Intimidation & Agitation 1913 Dec.

[MC Chaplin to G.M. 18 Dec 1913 (372)]
hot heads - class war
scabs

F.U. leaders don't want but forced on.

1914 strike & violence re Railways. - Witwatersrand.

[Railway Gazette 16 Jan 1914 p. 57]

several ugly attempts to wreck trains
overloading goods train at Braamfontein subway bridge [ibid]
dynamiting of a pilot engine between Deonar & George Gochin - 9 Jan.
Cape mail train [UG 38 1914 p. 2].

15 attempts to dynamite the line. [UG 38, 1914 p. 2]
also obstruction & interference with sails & ponds.

Rly ske & Vidence 1914.

[Wessels to g KM. 13 Feb. 1914 (76)]

gt. danger our line was exposed to from the rapid attacks by motor cyclists where the line runs along a road far from any habitation.

STRIKES

1914 Strike - Effects

A.S.E. Journals

Jan. 1914 p. 3

Feb. 1914 p. 3

June 1914 p. 5

July 1914 p. 3

Aug. 1914 p. 3

Oct. 1914 p. 4

May 1915 p. 4

July 1915 p. 9

Aug. 1916 p. 5

Govt. action

Arrests - ASE imprisonment.

1914 strike events: jailing → photo in London.

Reaction to 1914 strike.

Exclusions - leaving Trade Union.

Reaction of 1914 strike by ASE

Shocking state of Trade Unionism & ASE affairs → Lewis.

Effects of strike & exclusions

Remittance of exclusions & fines because of martial law.

E.C. approves SAC decision re remission of fines & cancellation of exclusions

A.S.E. ready to strike /

1914 SKe - Effect - Branches close. - AS-E
→ H.P Success.

Premier Mine closed [7 Feb 1914 SAC III, p. 215

Randfontein E. recommended to close [ibid 8 Feb. p. 216]

"

1914 ske - no question of general reinstatement without victimisation

~~EMC Chaplin to G.M. 18 Jan 1914 (37)~~ }
 Chaplin's view is retrenchment } ∴ Victory of labour in
 Hoy's telegram too - unemployment } provincial elections
 [Hoy to G.M. (35) 16 Jan 1947]

1914 SKe & Unemployment afterwards a fact -
alleviated largely because of war.

[SAC II 12 Dec 1914 p. 383]

1914 Strike & Natal Fedⁿ of Trades.

[SATG. March 1914 p. 2]. of Central Natal Fedⁿ of Trades

asked affiliated Unions to Ballot re Sympathetic Strike
obviously no eg SATU. [cf SATU. Durban B & 1914 514
SATG. April 1914, p. 3]

SATU & 1914 SKe Durban Branch

Ballot re request of Natal Fedⁿ. of Trades - Sympathetic strike.

may. vs.

5% levy on earnings to Rlymen. [SATG. April 1914, p. 3].

1914 SKe - lockout.

Cable to E.C.

SAC III.

8. Feb. 1914 p. 221.

lockout 50% workmen S. Africa, aduise
mechanis.

ASE - financial help - desperate - elections

p236. 22 Feb. 1914

A.S.E.

helped needed from

Cable to EC, American & Australian boards asking them to
strike a leg in support of our members locked out in
S.A.

help from Melbourne.

p. 254 28 March 1914 —

\$500 had been remitted — cable from Melbourne
in favour S.A.C.

p. 277 2 May 1914.

500 from Australia re distributed as follows: -

Married £3-2-6.

Single £2-2-6.

Children 5/-

test to remain over for 1 month to see if those
branches who have not sent returns in do so

p. 314 18 July 1914

draft of 500 dollars from America £102-0-10.

Branches to send in unemployed members.

1914 - help. \pm 400 dow. A.S.E.

p. 244 8 March 1914.

Cable from Melbourne: How many news are cut & if levies will be used for new news.
| Sec to reply about 400 & money to be used for our own news. only.

harbour day speakers 1914.

harbour Day 1914.

p. 253 . 24 March 1914

Mann, Musared, Kneebone Steer & McIntosh be nominated as
speakers to Lab. Day demonstration

p. 253 24 March 1914.

harbour Day After Strike Resolution

resolⁿ. Draft passed at the Callow Theatre on Sunday 8th March
resent to ~~the~~ harbour Day Demonstration Committee.

Labour Day Resolution 1944

Indemnity Bill protest.

p. 267, 7 April 1944

Reply to letter from Prot. Soc^t. informing them that the following resolution is being put to the meeting on Labour Day

Having in mind the bitter fight our fathers fought as Trade Unionist for the maintenance of human rights & human justice we pledge ourselves to resist with every means in our power any attempt to repressive measures introduced into Parliament.

ASE. Econ. Conditions v. bad by July 1914.

levy

Payment to those oow.

p. 325

25 July 1914

Moved that Branch sustains pay \$1-0. to each member to all those oow for 2 months from 1/- a week levy for 10 weeks carried.

cf Also Afrikaners Underground.

RIOTOUS ASSEMBLIES ACT.

opposition [SATJ July 1914 p. 9] — use vs. working class —
penalties vs. employers will never be enforced.

Then there is that monstrous piece of legislation, the Riotous Assemblies Act, conceived with the object of smashing trade unionism—an Act made law despite the protests of ~~organised~~ labour. That this iniquitous Act has failed to achieve its object is only due to the manner in which trade unionists have continued to support their organisations.

||

[SATJ Oct 1915 p. 11]

pre-election

Goal - to determine grievances - means "put a stop" to them

Wanted 24 July 1913.

War on Waxes.

(2)

A.C. Meetings after see if two' adopted - Pledges torn up. 1915

Newspapers.

The International.

The organ of the International League of the S.A.L to.

①
Labour Party & Sp. Conference 22 Aug. 1915 on War Issue

Rejuvenated War Policy adopted [International 10 Sept. 1915.]

82 to 30.

Resignations:

Mining - Govt. Mining Engineer's Report
[C.D. Webb to J.K.M. 22 Aug 1913 - (213)] Merriman Upset. Evans -
Difficulty - Mines

I am sorry to find you take the annual report of the Government Mining Engineer so literally and seriously. Personally, I regard it as a most unfair, inopportune and badly edited jumble of ex parte criticisms, which ought never to have passed the Minister responsible. You will find my reasons for this view very fully set forth in the copy of the Mining Journal which I send you under separate cover. To us it is most disheartening to read what extraordinary views of the causes of the recent discontent here are appearing in the London papers. We look to you to help in dispelling the mists of misunderstanding. Meanwhile I send you the figures you desire and would call your attention to the continuation of this article in tomorrow's issue.

Yours sincerely,
Clem D Webb

FED. OF TRADE UNIONS.

[Worker. pg 83a] August 21st, 1918.

pg 83c

Refutes communique of Chamber of Mines, July 8th,
re "misleading cables".

Denies "facts" published by Chamber of Mines.

Condemns Chamber of Mines for high accident rate.

Condemns Govt. for negligence as regards health &
lives of workers.

Condemns Govt for unwillingness to bring in Fight Home Bill,
which would have brought strike to an end.

A.S.E. Journals

July 1915 p.6

Negotiations with T.U.'s - C.of M. negotiations for formation of a joint committee of enquiry with Federation

Aug. 1915 p.4

First time recognition of T.U.'s by C. of M.:

- i) Hours -- std. maximum for all mines (not Robinson group)
- ii) O.T. in 3 months

1913 sRe + Paid Agitators - Demands unsupported.
[M. C. Bony to G. M. 3 July 1913 (110).]

- They now demand many things which the rank and file are not by any means agreed in wanting. The 8 hour bank of bank short Saturday shift higher rates - are more demands of paid agitators and the owners will not easily give way on such points. The men admit that they have not the means to strike and that they are being bluffed absolutely. Now whatever happens there must be a serious dislocation and we cannot get going again for a considerable time.

STRIKE COMMITTEE.

Sund. June 15th, 1913

[R.O.M. events file pg 33] R.O.M. # June 16th, 1913

Propaganda meeting held in Benen.

Mason bailed out by Kupes [See Mason]

STRIKE COMMITTEE.

SAT. JUNE 21ST, 1913.

[R.D.M. wants file pg 240] R.D.M. June 23rd.

Ballet of New. Moddefonten - big majority voting for strike.
Men cease work.
Engine drivers also cease work.

Dripwall & Kendall arrested.

Dan. Mass. Tale, Wasson. Kendall & Dripwall, Brewer.
charged before Bresser under Ind. Disputes Act. Kuper defends.
Remanded till June 30th. Bail \$50 each.

Three Labour M.P.s - Cresswell, Andrews & Madley - interview
with Strike Committee.

Surface men at Brakpan passed a vote of censure on
Kleyn. strikers for policy of extending strike.
Underground men censure surface men.

Both agree give financial support to fund.

First issue of "Strike Herald" published by Strike Committee
& Fed. of T. U's.

Strike Committee

June 7th, 1913.

[Strike Herald. J]. Strike Herald. June 25th, 1913.

Letter sent to Inspector of Mines re natives working underground w/o white supervision.

Also that whites & natives were remaining underground longer than 48 hrs. a week. thus contravening Sect. 9. of Mines & Works. Act.

RESULTS

Chaplin to JXH. 18 Jan. 1914.

1914 Strike - Plans of Mineowners -
No Reductions. Artisans - more harshly
treated.

In truth the strike is broken, but there are still many men who have not even applied for reinstatement & it will be some little time before conditions are normal.

The Government this time has realized the danger they were running & have made a fine display of force, which has been most effective. I think it is now quite clear that if there had not been this prompt display of force, if, that is, the organisation of the Strike Committee had been a little better and the mobilisation of the Defence forces had been a little less prompt the strike would have been very effective, the whole country would have been paralysed, & there is no saying what would have happened here. In the end, of course, the Defence forces would have come in and the thing would have been fought out to the bitter end, but at very heavy cost to the whole community. Judging by the time Hertzog took to make his position clear and by Freemantle's performance at Bloemfontein it rather looks as if some at any rate of Hertzog's friends would have liked to take advantage of the confusion, if the gov had not at once shown that they had the moment in hand, & in that case there might have been very serious trouble.

The Gov, of course, are going to get much kudos & their previous shortcomings will be for the most part forgotten. What is really deserving of great praise is the manner in which the mobilisation was carried out. That, I think, is creditable to Smuts and his officers & to the men themselves. I can't think things would have been allowed to get into such a state as to render such a mobilisation necessary but as they had got into that state one must recognize the excellence of the arrangements made.

As far as the miners are concerned we found that 1. Where there were most union men there was most trouble.

That of course was only to be expected, but it has, I suppose, come as a shock to those amiable people who believed that once all the men could be got into the unions & the employers could be got to recognize them all would be well.

2. As a rule the miners were much less inclined to strike than the artisans.

The reasons for that are a) The miners suffered from the last strike: some 1500 of them found themselves out of work, & they consequently learnt a lesson while the mechanics last time lost practically nothing. b) The mechanics usually belong to the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, which is a very strong Union, with headquarters in England c) Certain trades, e.g. drill sharpening are largely in the hands of Australians (I should like the Gov to offer every Australian in S.A. a free passage to Australia)

3) A large number of foremen and supervision staff either sided with the strikers or refused to "play up" them as previous

COLOUR & ATTITUDES — ~~Ramsay MacDonald Sympathetic~~

Creswell got himself arrested yestrday. It is said, though I do not pretend that is is ture, that he and Mr Wybergh escaped on Thursday from the labour Party offices over roofs and walls wen the police were not looking for them!

Phthisis ^a & Precautions vs. Compulsion 1904. ~~See M.A.A.~~ by H.M.A.

See Phthisis Precautions vs -
Compulsion

1914 SKe - Issues Obscured by Deportations - no M.P. mentioned. - 1914

Issues of 1914 sKe obscured by Deportations & Deprivation of Freedom of Speech.

Paved way to elections.

"Transvaal's replies to Deportations.

Labour sweeps the Board and controls Provincial Council." (Evening Chronicle 19 March 1914)

Headlines sum up message.

No minor Phthisis.

White Labour ousted - the theme.

Barry - 1914 SKe - Farrar 'Grading Rates' - Wage Reductions ^{of Mechanics}

31 Jan 1914.

31 January 1914. I see a danger of government frowning too fond of this sort of "spirited behaviour" - & I see also a grave danger of my friends the Tickey snatchers trying to use this crisis as a means of unjustly squeezing the Wage Earner, with things as they are & the cost of living as it is there is no room for a reduction of wage rates.

I do not know what the Economic Commission reported (& I hope you will stir them up to make the report known before we are all 100 years old) - but I feel sure that they must have reported on these lines re rates of pay in these parts.

I gather from Farrar that he is creating a strong party who will be out for "grading rates of pay to whites" & also for perpetuating the present Chinese Wall of Exclusion which our foolish system has thrown up in front of the Native.

By "grading rates", he means to make the 20/- per shift now paid to mechanics, carpenters etc, a maximum rate & to sign on whites at all sorts of prices below this - beginning at say 7/6 or 5/- per shift. He thus hopes to pose as the Protector of Whites at the same time to secure much sweated labour.

How will hold the Native back - he must never rise above his present status or be given any encouragement to rise - but will argue that the poor whites with unskilled hands & lazy habits must fill the gap between the natives' 2/6 & the maximum skilled 20/-.

All this, to my mind, is a rotten ill founded scheme, drawn up to catch the white Voters' eye, & at the same time to fill the wily Tickey Snatcher's pocket by hitting the White Worker in the belly.

He entirely overlook the necessity of treating the Native within our Union - justly - & as a human being - permanently resident in our midst - who must be treated on his merits. I would myself allow the native to expand economically & thus show the White if that if he will not better himself he is in danger of being overtaken in certain fields. the problem of the poor white remains & us fearfully & hideously difficult but is there any possible solution in the direction of building protecting barriers?

I am frightened to death of the Farrar clan - of their aims & of their real intentions.

Chamber of Mines — policy of repression if carried out sincerely. 17 May 1914.

Bury to JXM 17 May 1914

White labour is trying to froth up again.

I look confidently to some egregious plunder being made which will set Syndicalists on top again.

The plunder may quite probably be committed by the Mine owners — who have a peculiar aptitude for doing the wrong thing.

At present they are as nervous as cats.

There is no policy — except one of repression — if repression can be carried out sincerely.

I don't like the position at all.

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