

rentises, jesses my powers of comprehension, but, doubtless your mind which is so strong at comprehending that it can find a common ground of economic interest for employer and exploited in the present competitive system of society, will solve the problem for us.

I should have argued that Sinclair, having been himself through the University mill was for that reason all the better fitted to speak about it, and that had he not had that experience his judgment would have had much less weight. But possibly I am an illogical fanatic.

Be that as it may, I do remember that those logic books of old did tell us that when recourse is had to the *Argumentum ad hominem*—to wit personal abuse—and to arguments calculated to raise a laugh against one's opponent, the man using them is probably trying to uphold a weak position by fogging the issue with the feeling that personalities cease. To accuse such a benevolent and disinterested correspondent as yourself of being wilfully unfair to Frederick Sinclair would be altogether too bad; so I will not do so. But you certainly do unwittingly wrong him when you say that he "flaunts his degree." Those who know him best will confirm me when I say that he seldom, if ever, has been known to write his degree after his name, and that on the cover of "Fellowship," the able monthly magazine that he edits, it stands simply as "F. Sinclair." Others caused the degree to be printed on the advertisements of his meetings, and did it without consulting him.

But passing to bigger matters. For the enlightenment of the thousands of Adelaide working men who wish to grasp the matter clearly, will you let us have in the columns of "The Daily Herald" your replies to the following questions?

1. Who were the committee or governors of the W.E.A. at the time of Mr. Sinclair's visit to this city?

2. How many and which of the committee are members neither of the capitalist class, nor of the professional and bourgeois class, nor are Government officials?

3. How many and which of the committee are weekly wage-earners?

4. Whether it be not true that this committee engages, controls, and dismisses (if needs be) the tutors of the W.E.A.?

5. Whether the fact of most of your W.E.A. tutors being (as you say) born of working class parents is any guarantee that they now possess any more working class sentiments than (say) William Morris Hughes.

6. Whether it is not a fact that in times of strikes and similar disturbances a University is the first place the strike-breaking authorities turn to for the purpose of getting compliant skilled labor?

7. Did not University students as engine-men run the trains when Bent and Irvine broke the Victorian railway workers?

8. Were you yourself not dined, wined, and applauded recently by the Adelaide Associated Chambers of Commerce, and do you think that reception an evidence of your effectiveness in enlightening the worker?

9. In the recent compulsory national service campaign when many professors were active in favor of the Government proposals, how many, if any, spoke against the same?

10. In the recent industrial upheaval how many, if any, University professors and lecturers (a) publicly took the side of the workers; or (b) even went to the dangerous length of recommending at any rate a sympathetic consideration of their grievances.

These are searching questions; they call for candid and plain answers. When you have answered them the readers of "The Herald" will be in a better position to decide how far your statements as to the value of the University and the W.E.A. to the proletariat will hold water.

Furthermore, to revert, learned sir, to Frederick Sinclair, let me tell you that those of us who know him remember that for years, even while still a lecturer at the University of Melbourne, he championed the cause of the worker and criticised the unfairness towards the worker of university influence and education. He is not pursuing a "pastime," as you allege, nor is he treading the narrow path of winning professional goodwill and making interest among the great and wealthy of the land. This "prattler" has shown his sincerity by his sacrifices, and a few of us know what they are. If he speaks plainly, and, as you say, "hurts epithets," his denunciations do not constitute more than a tiny part of his addresses, and are rather the indignant expression of the feelings which the facts he sets forth kindle in his soul.

He sees modern education as one of the three great instruments for putting out the eyes of the workers, the other two being the capitalist press and the pulpit. Let those who condemn a man for denouncing remember that the same holy lips that spoke the Sermon on the Mount spoke also the terrible white-hot words of the twenty-third chapter of Matthew, that noblest monument of righteous wrath.

And another point, learned sir. You speak as if the economic claims of the worker and the employer as they exist under the present industrial system were such as can be reconciled. You ignore the fact that that system is not built upon brotherhood-consciousness or fair play, but upon cut-throat competition. It brings to the top and to position of power the unfittest, namely, the most grasping, long-headed, and least scrupulous. While it stands reconciliation is impossible.

There is one way of reconciling, that is to abolish the system. That is not the way your W.E.A. encourages. Ethically you cry, "Peace, peace!" when there is no peace; intellectually you are trying to square a circle.

The Rev. Sinclair is a man of peace; and as such he sees that industrial peace cannot be based on competition and the subjection of the worker. He believes that true education should make the workers brotherhood-conscious, lead the great disinherited into their Canaan, and that it should cause workers in all lands to unite to accomplish their ends with respect for God's moral law and without copying the criminal violence and legalised lawlessness that the capitalist-controlled Governments of to-day have used so extensively to their everlasting infamy.

And, in conclusion, learned sir, it is most true as you say, "the next 20 years are going to be full of difficulties for the wage-earners;" and that is just why the wage-earner has to get wise and get wise quickly, or else be utterly and forever enslaved.

The old chattel slavery of Babylon, Greece, and Rome gave place to the serf slavery of medieval feudalism, with its veneer of chivalry; that in turn yielded place to the wage-slavery of modern capitalism, with its varnish of "wowsersism"; and now, through the giant archway of universal conscription and semi-military governmental regulation, labor is being stamped into one monster industrial compound which will not merely occupy one

corner of the Rand, but threatens to cover the surface of the entire earth.

Your W.E.A., my learned friend, with its academic discussions and mild theorising, does not seem likely to help the masses in this, their supreme hour of need and danger. Their question is not, "Are we being plundered?" but "How can we stop the plundering?" While you play your economic fiddles, their Rome is burning! There's the whole in a nutshell.

Let me say in ending this open letter, that one of those many regulations which in all countries seem extending their grip upon those concerned with education, prevents me from signing it with my name. So I must remain, yours fraternally,

"ANOTHER M.A."

Advertise 15.10.17

GENERAL NEWS.

JAPANESE AND OTHER LANGUAGES.

The Minister for Home and Territories (Hon. P. McM. Glynn), who returned to Adelaide on Saturday, stated that on the previous day he received a deputation on the question of promoting the study of the Japanese language, in view of the increasing intercourse with the Mikado's Empire, and also the native languages and customs of the Pacific Islands. The points submitted by the deputation were that it was exceedingly desirable that the Government should afford facilities for the study of the languages. Except in Sydney, where Mr. Murdoch, who had now left for the military college at Duntroon, had for some time taught Japanese at the University, there were few openings, except through conversation with those who knew the language, of acquiring any knowledge of it. As regarded the Pacific Islands and Papua, Mr. Glynn mentioned that one of the chief difficulties was that there were so many dialects. He, however, promised to go into the whole subject. Mr. Glynn said he had just been going through some Papuan reports, and could see how numerous were the dialects from the fact that in a journey of 28 days across previously unknown country a patrol party passed through village after village with a different language in each.

Register 16.10.17

Mr. Harold Wylde, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., has been appointed teacher of organ in the Elder Conservatorium.

Daily Herald
17.10.14

VARIOUS VIEWS

LABOR COLLEGES VERSUS THE W.E.A.

W. G. writes:—The "open letter" from Mr. Herbert Heaton to Rev. Mr. Sinclair in "The Daily Herald" of October 13 should be interesting reading to working class educationists, although it throws no new light on the question. The question as to whether the Labor movement should tag itself on to the W.E.A., which boasts that it stands for no definite economic school of thought whatever, or whether that movement should enter the field of education with a view to a more perfect understanding of Labor's objective is really the kernel of this controversy. All the special pleading for an all-round education—an education which means giving the working class a history of economic theory, with a confused knowledge of things in general and nothing in particular—is a waste of Mr. Heaton's time. His letter contains an amount of bragging and crowing that doesn't seem quite compatible with the usual claims of university culture. Take this as an illustration—"You (Mr. Sinclair) are not the first person to indulge in that pastime in Adelaide. You had your forerunner 'W. G.' who, after several tilts at the W.E.A., announced his retirement from the encounter, and then began all over again under a nom-de-plume." This is news to me, and I think it is equally so to the readers of "The Daily Herald." Any reader who cares to go through the file of our paper will find that "W. G." actually contributed two letters on the questions in dispute after the last one appeared from the pen of Mr. Heaton. The real bone of contention was as to whether trade booms and depressions of employment generally were brought about by what Mr. Heaton called "the psychology of the business community," or by the Marxian explanation, namely, that labor does not, under capitalist conditions, receive the full value of the labor product, that this leads to an over-production of wealth on the one side and an under-consumption on the other, with the logical result of periodical trade booms and depressions and unemployment. So far from running away from the great champion of the W.E.A.—a champion, by the way, whose championship is not altogether disinterested economically—"W. G." is still here and means to remain here until the organized workers of Australia see through the absurdity of patronising capitalist educational institutions instead of building up Labor colleges of their own, so as to equip them for the coming struggle with the enemy. Mr. Heaton refers to "W. G." running away and returning under a nom-de-plume. Let me say right here that it is a perfectly safe thing for any prop of the capitalist system to sign his full name to all he writes to the press. It even pays him to do so. Mr. Heaton must be ignorant indeed of present conditions in Australia if he does not know that it is far different with the wage slave who has a family more or less depending upon him. Is he equally free to speak out his thoughts? I invite the tutor of this so-called "Workers' Educational Association" to answer. I have in my mind's eye just now two men who, because of the part they have taken in the cause of the workers here in Adelaide, are literally banished from South Australia. The dear, kind bosses distinctly refused to give these men employment. This is the position of the wage slave to-day, and a person in a well-paid billet—pretending to teach working class economics—tries to sneer at one who, in order to enlighten his workmates, writes under a nom-de-plume. This champion of the W.E.A. tells the readers of "The Daily Herald" that it is as useless denouncing capitalism as denouncing the Germans. It is all a matter of the forces the workers have to fight, and the utility or otherwise of indulging in "empty" denunciations of capitalism will depend largely on the efforts of the workers themselves to throw off their chains.

Register 18.10.14

PERTH UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS.

PERTH, October 17.

At the meeting of the Senate of the Perth University yesterday it was decided, on economic reasons, to ask the Premier to hand the Observatory over to the university, with a maintenance allowance. Mr. Battye gave notice of motion to rescind the Senate's resolution of 1912 that no fees should be charged students. Mr. Somerville (who represents the workers) gave notice of an amendment that professorships and lectureships be reduced, to allow the university to carry on with the present grant, without infringing with the principle of free education.

Advertiser 18.10.14

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY.

INCREASED PAY FOR THE STAFF.

Brisbane, October 17.

At a meeting of the Senate of the University to-day, the lecturing staff sought an improved status and increased salaries. The staff were informed that the Senate were sympathetic, and had endeavored to place the position of the staff on a more satisfactory basis as regarded status and emolument by the establishment of associate professorships to supersede the present lectureships, with salaries rising from £500 to £700 per annum. The lectureships would supersede the present assistant lectureships, with salaries rising from £300 to £500. To carry this into effect the Government had been asked to provide an additional endowment. Until this was done the Senate would be unable to give effect to the lecturing staff's wishes. A sub-committee was appointed to place the matter before the Premier.

9.8.
26.10.14

A SOLDIER'S WILL

WILL ADELAIDE BENEFIT

NEW CITIZENS OR A LEGACY.

(Published in "The Times")

LONDON, October 25, 12.55 a.m.

Captain Ronald Johnson, R.F.A., of Cheshire, who has been killed in action, bequeathed £16,000, including Adelaide property, to any brother, sister, or cousin settling in Australia or working in the service of the Australian Government. If none qualify within eight years the property is left to the Adelaide University, the City of Adelaide, or Commonwealth Government, as the executors may direct.

Enquiries at the Lands Titles Office, the officials of which courteously made the information available, elicited the fact that the property referred to is situated on the south side of Waymouth street, having a frontage of 54 ft. 6 in. and a depth of 213 ft. 3 in. It is at present occupied by Downer & Co., wine and spirit merchants. It appears on the records in the joint names of William Henry Johnson, "of parts beyond the seas," manufacturer, and Ronald Lindsay Johnson, Sydney, N.S.W., merchant and general agent. The land was leased from the Hon. Sir Henry Ayres and Patrick Boyce Coglein to Henry Brown and Henry Johnson for 50 years from March, 1878.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel William Hayward, C.M.G., of Adelaide, was invested with the insignia of a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George at Buckingham Palace on August 15 by his Majesty the King.

The Mail 20.10.17

WOMAN AT THE BAR

ADELAIDE'S FIRST LADY LAWYER.

MISS KITSON ADMITTED.

The admission to the Bar of Adelaide's first lady lawyer constituted a ceremony of unusual importance at the Full Court of South Australia this morning, when Miss Mary Cecil Kitson, eldest daughter of Mr. John Kitson (Sub-Inspector of Detectives), received a cordial welcome from members of the Bench and the legal profession. With the Chief Justice (Sir George Murray) and Mr. Justice Buchanan Lady Galway occupied a position on the dais. The Court was crowded with spectators.

Mr. T. S. Poole, in moving for the admission to the Bar of Miss Kitson, said she took the degree of Bachelor of Law at the University of Adelaide on December 15, and completed her articles on August 27 last. Her application for admission was made possible by Act No. 1050, of 1911, which enabled women to practise the profession of the law.

Addressing the newly-admitted candidate, Sir George Murray said it was the first time a woman had claimed the right conferred by a Statute passed in 1911, but it gave him no surprise. They had women justices of the peace, women police, women warders, and occasionally they had women prisoners. (Laughter.) Women advocates were surely due. His first word to new members was "Welcome." There had never been anything but kindness shown by the older members of the profession to those who qualified for admission. His next word was congratulation upon having been admitted. The profession of the law was both honourable and learned. They had to try to do justice according to law. They must remember that they were the depositories of confidence and trust for those who employed them. The lives, the liberty, the reputation, and the fortunes of their clients might be in their hands. The burden of responsibility which rested upon the practitioner at law was therefore very great. He wished success to the candidates before the Court that morning.

Miss Kitson is a native of Adelaide. She attended the Convent of Mercy, Angas street, for several years, and passed the senior public examination in 1910 and the higher public in 1911. In the following year she began her University studies. She was articled to Mr. T. S. Poole, M.A., LL.B., of the firm of Messrs. Poole and Johnstone.

Ref. 29.10.17

At the meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide on Friday, the Rev. Dr. Jeffers resigned his membership, after many years of faithful service. He was a member of the original council, which was appointed in 1874.

Ref. 30.10.17

FORESTRY FINANCE.

The statement of revenue and expenditure in connection with the Forests Department reveals a gratifying increase in the revenue of £4,278, as the amount received in 1915-16 was £5,980, as against £10,239 received in 1916-17. "Rents of leased lands" are £222 less, but this is not really a deficiency, as the previous year's rents were unusually swelled by payment of back rents held over during the drought. "Plantation grazing fees" show an increase of £83, and £627 more was received under "other receipts" than during 1915-16, owing to the greater quantity of wool sold (consequent on the steady increase of the flock), and also to the exceptionally favourable rates obtained. "Timber receipts," however, gave the largest increase, as they exceeded the previous total by £3,781.