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D. IVON JONES.

On Monday morning a cable was received from Moscow announcing the death of our late secretary and editor, David Ivon Jones.

The news was not unexpected, as our comrade had long been seriously ill, and for some time he had been in a hospital in Moscow, where he spent some months in the Mozambique coastal belt. Returning to Johannesburg, he assumed the editorship of "The International," for a few months, but had to desert, and at the invitation of a friend proceeded in 1920 to Nice in the vain quest of health. Keenly interested in the Russian Revolution, he made his way through Italy, Germany and Sweden to Moscow, where he represented the International Socialist League at the 3rd Congress of the Communist International.

Comrade Jones had a gift for languages; besides his native Welsh and English, he read and spoke Dutch, German, and Russian, and would read Spanish, Italian and Portuguese papers when they came in.

He continued to contribute valuable articles on tactics to "The International," and to the English and Russian Communist Press and periodicals. His brochure, "Communism in South Africa," is well known. He has written a number of pamphlets, one of which, "The Bolsheviks are Coming," was the cause of his arrest, imprisonment and trial for sedition in Mariborough, in company with some comrades, who were convicted, but on appeal to the Supreme Court the conviction was quashed.

Comrade Jones was recognised by the Russian comrades as a sound propagandist of proletarian revolutionary tactics, and were it not for the tragedy of his health would undoubtedly have become a considerable international figure.

His courage, both moral and physical, were undoubted. In the 1913 siege of the Traders Hall, when the mob broke up the May Day demonstration in 1917, in the midst of the tumult, this was put to the severest test, and he never flinched. In his small body he carried a lion's heart, is a frequent comment by those who knew him. But that which gives him a prominent place in the roll of proletarian fighters is his whole-hearted devotion to the cause of the workers.

From the time that he saw his path clearly he never wavered and never looked back. Whatever double and backsliding others may do, as is shown, Comrade Ivon remained firm in his faith in the certainty of the ultimate triumph of the revolutionary working-class.

Many will mourn his loss in Russia and Britain as well as in South Africa, but the best tribute we can pay to his memory, and the one he would wish to carry on the work, which splendidly equipped him as he was for it, is so reluctantly and tragically had to lay down.

Union Leaders as Strike Breakers.

The cowardly and interested propaganda by some local Labour leaders against any form of industrial struggle is a phenomenon not peculiar to South Africa. Comrade Murphy, writing in "Improvo," says:

"The Union leaders of the I.L.P.P. follows sharply in the wake of the Capitalist Press in its denunciation of strikes. Since the tram and bus strike of a couple of weeks ago the Press has lost no staff anti-Communist campaign. From the press of the government to the local markets we have come in considerable advertisement as the 'sinner' figures behind the strikes that are raging. We were the bold bad villains responsible for 'insulting the Empire' at Wembley. We are the big, bad soundrels responsible for the Southampton shipyard workers refusing to go back to work in spite of all the forces of the Press and reformist trades being used to get them back to work. The Trade Unions here have simply gone crazy in their strike-breaking methods. Threats, mass meetings, ballots, sectional meetings, dangers of the National Lock-out. Not one of these has proved of any avail up to date. Instead of taking the fact of the strike as a clear indication of the feeling of the men (and not one of them dare stand for the conditions which obtain) and giving the lead for united national action to the men we are permitted themselves to be the veritable hand rings of the employers. The employers threaten the lock-out at the very moment they have all got a demand before the Court, instead of the men being shunted to £1 per week in wages. Challenged in this way their only retort is to crawl down to Southampton, representatives of some fifty unions, and how for the men to go back to work as the 'strike is prejudicing the negotiations.' When the men refuse, then the union leaders join in the campaign of accusing the Communists of responsibility for the present Lock-out with a view to discrediting the union leaders.

Then comes in the 'New Leader,' the organ of the Party of the Government to moralise on the trans strike and tell us that we are all going to the devil. To want to submit to this method by some well-organised systematically arranged plan whereby the whole lot can be dealt with at once by negotiation, and those wasteful strikes eliminated. This is the alternative to the scheme for compulsory arbitration now before the Prime Minister of London. It does not want to depart from the traditional methods of procedure but to co-ordinate them, etc. If not the prospect are terrible, it says. It goes on: 'Comrade Murphy, the London traffic men, like the locomotive men, manage a few thousand only. But they occupy an immensely powerful strategic position. They can in a sense compel the co-operation of a large number of other workers. It is a general recognition of the force of many industries. But it does not contain a general strike yet. When the textile workers strike they will not be able to compel immediate attention of the public or the instant co-operation of other workers. And even if they succeed, the (Continued on page 6.)"