

Another Blow

To Colour Prejudice.

The League advanced another step in its fight against the Castle of Colour Prejudice last night, when Mr. Robert Grendon, the editor of the native paper "Abantu Batho" delivered an address on "The Link between Black and White." It was good to see a full and good humoured audience in the Council Hall, with a large number of natives among whom was Mr. Saul M. Sane, the veteran spokesman of the industrialized native Comrade D. Ivon Jones took the chair and prefaced the address with a few remarks calling attention to the fact Lafargue, the great Socialist leader of France, boasted of negro blood in his veins, and typically enough he was the author of that classic in Socialist literature: "The Right to be Lazy."

Native spokesmen have not yet outgrown the stage of loyalty to the Empire. Perhaps for that reason an awkward little incident may have had its good effect on those present. The lecturer, before proceeding, proposed in a few words sentiments of regret at the celebrated field-marshal's death and asked the chairman to put it to the meetings. The Chairman explained that whilst on common grounds of humanity they passed by his death with reverence, personally, they as Socialists could not honour his memory, for in his calling he was the agent of the class who exploit both native and white working-class, and encompass the death of millions of our fellow workers.

The address mainly dealt with the philosophic grounds for a better feeling between black and white, and was followed attentively, and with appreciation in parts; even if some passages aroused suppressed impatience that the lecturer did not see what Socialists do: that the exploitation of cheap labour and colour prejudice by the capitalists and all their avenues of instruction are one in essence.

The interesting part of the evening came in questions and discussion. Mr. Grendon had remarked on the greater regard for native rights in the Victorian reign. To a reminder about the Zulu wars the lecturer spiritedly replied that even to slay the body was better than to be treated with contempt, as something less than men.

The lecturer having made appeals to personages in authority. Mr. Bennett said that the native workers need not look for a Master. They had found a Master. It was Dissatisfaction.

Saul Msane contributed to the discussion in a pungent manner characteristic of him. He said that education of the white workers was the great thing needful. The Trade Unions had been formed to fight the natives. Let them remove restrictions and the native workers would join the Trade Unions. Mr. Msane's remarks were punctuated with boisterous approval from all parts of the hall. In fact the increased interest and

freedom shown by the native friends in these meetings is notable, and their spontaneous response to the points made truly exhilarating.

Indeed, it is just as well that we are in haste to catch the last printers form, or we might give way to overmuch optimism on the great significance of meetings such as we had last night. Their effect cannot be measured. And the hilarity and good feeling which they produce in the mind must be due to the fact that Socialism is beginning to right a great wrong.

Haase's Great Speech.

After speaking against the projected taxes and the censorship, Haase said (March 24):

"And whither is the Government's foreign policy leading us? As long ago as March of the previous year I declared that in view of our favourable military position our Government was bound to offer its hand to the other side for peace. A year has passed, and still no end of this murderous war is to be foreseen. In every country the masses have expressed their longing for peace. Parliament would be denying its duty if it did not make itself into the interpreter of this strong will to peace, if it binds its own eyes. Such an attitude would heavily revenge itself. Even the politicians of enemy countries are being forced more and more into the view that no decisive defeat can be inflicted on our armies. But everything also tends to show that neither can our army by its successes force the enemy to their knees. (Violent opposition cries.) Two mighty confederacies confront each other, and at the end of this appalling struggle **there will probably be neither victors nor vanquished.** (Violent cries. The President warns the speaker to be moderate.) You must all admit that my statements are very well founded. (Renewed cries.) However the struggle may end, Europe is approaching an impoverishment.

What sense is there in continuing the war, even from the point of view of the champions and supporters of war? We Socialists, who detest war and wish to prevent it. (Renewed opposition: the President requests Haase to speak to the point.) We must not overlook the fact, that if we only desire the independence of the country, we should have peace already. (Opposition.) For the Socialist worker it is the most bitter tragedy that they, to whom the common idea of the solidarity of peoples (Cries and interruptions: Kjeth: "No German workman thinks that": cries from the right: "We will not listen to this inflammatory speech"). Haase: "You will not listen to the truth. You will not be able to deny that in the circles of the capitalists, except for those who are making something by the war, it has long ago been recognized that the war was a