

THE DOCTRINE OF LIBERTY.

We mentioned in yesterday's issue that many of the practices of Bolshevism were revolting, and because of the coloring of immorality that gives it that "red" tinge it should be avoided as though it were a plague. An article by Mr. Cezar Wolkowsky, in the Sydney "Sun," which, of course, should be faithfully studied, does not detract from our views regarding the morality or immorality of Bolshevism. In fact, it rather confirms the views we have expressed. Mr. Wolkowsky is reported to have said that free love—in Russia, of course—is a system of permitting their own choice in the matter of a partner. It means that, continues the Russian writer, with women emancipated from the servitude of factory and shop life, they will be able to choose such partners as they desire, without looking out for an escape from the slavish work behind a counter or in front of a machine. Our readers will at once see the narrow views of one who thinks in terms of city work and most likely forgets that beyond the city is the broad countryside. However, we will leave that phase of the question aside for the present. We have quite enough Australians who believe that capital cities are the be-all

believe that capital cities are the be-all and end-all of existence, without worrying over the fact that a Russian writer also holds the same opinion. The point we wish to emphasise is that the home, and the orderly, moral life there, are the secret of greatness. Russia to-day speaks of free love, and prates about the advantages of illicit relations between the sexes. Let any person look broadly on Russia to-day, and let him ask himself if the Russian form of government and social affairs are worth copying. We are certain that the answer will be strongly in the negative. The system of marriage, so strongly held by the church, and so strongly supported by the people throughout the centuries, cannot be upset all at once by misguided people in Russia, whose views are followed by a few misguided people in Australia also. If the normal marriage contracts were broken, and if the people were prompted to indulge in illicit relations, then there would be a national failure such as meant the eventual extinction of the famous nations of antiquity. Happily, there is little prospect in Australia of such a tragedy. Our system of State education is providing for that. In addition, there is an increasing number of private secondary schools, at which the teaching of morality is considered by the

ing of morality is considered by the staff to be not subordinate to scholastic success. When we have State and private schools all endeavoring to inculcate the highest moral ideas, when we have churches, Sunday schools, and hundreds of related societies all engaged in the same purpose, one does not need to worry over the matter. However, young people are often prone to thoughtlessly accept some idea presented—such as the Russian explanation of free love—and to approve of it as a new theory, although, in reality, it is as old as the hills. Naturally, their good common sense ultimately comes to the rescue; but it is during this period of immaturity of young people that sometimes harm is done through the writings of people whose mentality is not as well balanced as it might be.