POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2035

POLISH SIDE OF CASE PRESENTED

Misunderstanding Caused by Red Propaganda

Poland Progressive and Democratic and Constitution Is Broad in Liberties — A Word to World Labor.

Polish Publicity Bureau.)

There prevails in labor circles in many countries throughout the world—thanks to the propaganda of Bolsheviks and unfamiliarity with actual conditions in Russia—the belief that the present conflict is one between re-action and social progress; between the predatory interests and the emancipation of the proletariat. Poland to these individuals is the harbinger of social darkness, whereas Soviet Russia is the pioneer of social progress and the champion of lofty altruistic ideals.

Nothing could be more untrue. It is a pathetic misunderstanding highly injurious to the cause of a nation struggling against great odds for existence and freedom; a nation which with the flower of its manhood, is today making a valiant attempt to shield European civilization against imminent destruction.

It is no exaggeration to say that the Republic of Poland before its dismemberment was the most progressive body politic in Europe. In no other European country was religious tolerance so broad and personal liberty so respected. Her constitution enacted on May 3, 1791, surpassed all others in Europe in the number and scope of the liberties granted her people. It was based on the principle "that in human society all power comes from the will of the people."

After the partition, consummated by three militarily powerful nations, having as their motto "might makes right," the Polish people refused to renounce their claim to independence, and have since participated in many struggles for freedom in every corner of the globe. Czariat Russia was at that time one great vast prison, possessing no semblance of liberty as we understand the term today. Her soldiery and gendarmeria, at the point of the bayonet, held the entire civil populace enslaved.

Regenerated Poland, true to its traditions has since the armistice, become at once one of the most progressive and democratic of European states. The executive is vested in the Sejm (Diet), elected on the basis of the most liberal suffrage system somewhere; which has granted active and passive suffrage rights not only to all adult females, but also made possible the participation in the debates there of minority factions. As a result of this the majority of this Polish parliament is composed of peasants and workers. The present premier of Poland is a farmer, Wincenty Witos, chairman of the progressive farmers' party. The Polish Diet, a year ago passed the land reform bill. This measure provides for a general readjustment of land ownership in order that small holders and the landless may possess or share more generously in this ownership. The eight-hour day is a law there; also many other protective laws have been passed for the benefit of the workers. Such is "reactionary" Poland. What is occurring at the same time in Soviet Russia? The celebrated "dictatorship of the proletariat" is nothing else but a tyrannical oppression by a clique, who have again changed entire Russia into one great prison and great armed camp and a land of extreme misery. The power wielded there is not based on the will of the people, but on the number of bayonets. In the worst days of the Czarist regime there never were as many executions is Russia as there are now, under the rule of Lenin and Trotzky; not only bourgeoise and landowners are led to the gallows, but also many of the best of the socialist leaders, when they dare to refuse to be gulded blind by Bolshevik teuts. Never were gaols in Russia so crowded with victims coming from among the proletarians as now, when they have the "dictartorship of the proletariat."

There is not a vestige left of the freedom of the press; official organs of the Bolsheviki only, are printed; there is not any of the socalled liberty of assemblage; any criticism of the rulers being rigidly excluded. In addition to this the eight-hour work day is abolished, also the right to strike, and in its place there is compulsary conscription for the so-called "army of labor"; obligatory military service; besides the thousands of other restraints, the compulsary belief in Bolsheviki ideals, which are still on paper. Instead of real social reform legistation, emanating from the will of the people we see there only vain promises or uncanny experiments precipitating the country into greater and greater economic disruption. Slavery, poverty, rule of the hangman and hunger—all put forward as visions of a better future for the proletariat— these are the actual consequences of the Bolsheviki obligarchy. The Poles being nearer, see it better than other nations, and as they are first to feel the Bolsheviki invasion, they are defending themselves against this Bolshevist imperialism, which simultaneously seeks aggrandisement in Asia Minor in the hope that soon they will conquer the globe.

At the helm of the Soviet army—the largest armed force in the world— we see former officers of the old Czarist regime: dyed-in-the-wool reactionaries, forced into their ranks of sheer necessity, for fear of imprisonment or execution; these officers accept generous remuneration and cherish the hope of a counter revolution when the pyschological moment arrives. The majority of these Soviet champions are composed of hordes of barbarians— Cossacks— the selfsame warriors used by the Czars with great success for bloody suppression of all strike moves, all attempts at emancipation.

To-day with the Chinese mercenaries, they form the ranks of the Bolshevik army; so only the name has been changed, the hordes of Budenny being called "proletarian cavalry."

Against this Soviet "proletarian" the Polish workman and farmer is struggling defending his institutions and his land. In their ranks you will find—amongst the thousands of volunteers from all walks of life—old socialist veterans, leaders of the workers party, as for example, such members of the sejm, as Moraszewski Reger, and Bobrowski. All of these have been drawn together with a fear bred of intimate acquaintance with the horrors of Soviet is spurring them on in this unequal struggle against a relentless foe, which represents the most perfect contradiction of all that democracy and real liberty stand for on this earth.

This mortal conflict is looked on watchfully, by the whole world, conscious that its results will decide the fate of civilization. It is looked on also, by the proletariat of Western Europe; partially at least misled by the propaganda of the Bolshevik emissaries. The prejudice which seems to exist against the cause of Poland—for some reason not easily comprehend—among the workers of other countries continues to persist, despite the fact that the Polish Socialists and workers have sent out an appeal to them and asked their sympathy in Poland's hour of need. They have their brother workers of the world to help them, they asked the workers to fender it possible for Poland to get her sorely needed ammunition which has laid her helpless in the path of the Cossacks and Chinese mercenaries. The Polish proletariat asks the proletariat of other countries to abandon the belief that this conflict is one between a reactionary Poland and a liberty loving Bolshevik Russia united as they have never been united bfore and a cruel and relentless enemy.

If they do not, this terrible mistake will make the case of Poland, now wallowing in pools of blood, one of the most pathetic tragedies of history and the aftermath of this mistake may be the destruction of our entire civilization.

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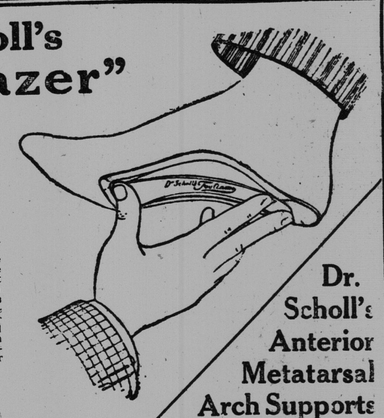
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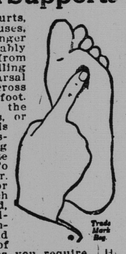
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STAY AWAY FROM RUSSIA IF YOU WANT TO DRINK
Erstwhile Polishers of Brass Rail Anxious to Beat Dry Law Told to Go to Cuba or Montreal.
(New York Times.)
When it comes to applying legal blotting paper to alcoholic moisture, the Russian Bolshevists have it on the Anti-Saloon League like the kick-packed bottle of twenty-year-old hootch has on that contained in a glass of "half-of-one per cent." The Russian Red soldier can grunt a Slavic "Here's How" just once before a rifle bullet puts an end to his elbow bending activities forever.
Erstwhile polishers of the brass rail who might seek to beat the eighteenth amendment by deportation—provoking acts are warned to stick to the more peaceful climate of Cuba or Montreal, by Morris Shtooten, who has just returned to the United States after five years in the Near East, four of them spent in the South Rusisan city of Lugans. During the past year he has been engaged in the activities of the Near East Relief in the Caucasus.
"If a Soviet soldier gets drunk, he is shot immediately," Shtooten declared. "The penalty for civilians is not quite so severe. They are sent to jail and kept there for a time. Before they are released they have to pay a heavy fine."
Shtooten, whose home is in Far Rockaway had taken his wife on a trip to Russia for her health when the world war broke out, marooning him in Lugansk. He formerly had worked in a foundry in Akron, Ohio, so he obtained a job in the locomotive factory in the Russian city. He remained there after the Bolshevists seized control.
"The only difference between Soviet Russia and Imperial Russia," he said, "is a difference in who wields the axe. The present regime is just as autocratic as was the old, with only the difference that now there is no real government. I was born in Russia and lived there until I was thirty-five years old.
'Russia is united at present because

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the Russians hate the Poles. But when the war is over, I feel sure that the Soviet government will be replaced by a democracy. General Denikine would have succeeded if he had carried out his pledge of amnesty to everyone, even those who had been active in Soviet circles. But he didn't."
ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED.
Mr. and Mrs. James S. Flagler have announced the engagement of their daughter, Marion Rioch, to John T. MacGowan, of the staff of the Canadian National Railway. The marriage is to take place early in September.

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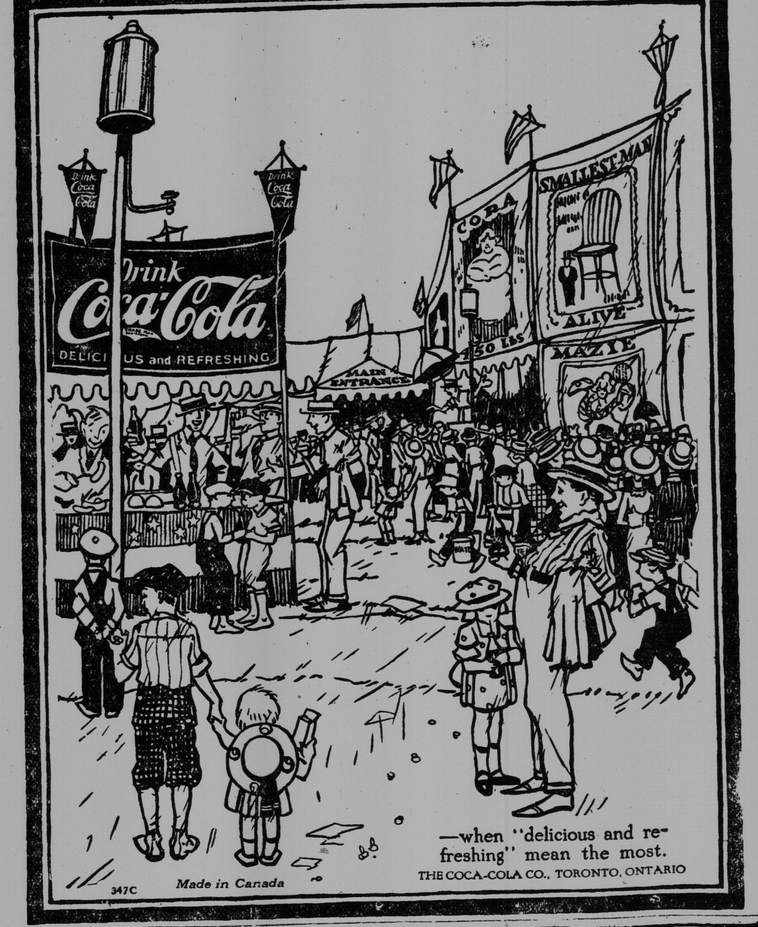

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