

# Latest Allied-American Dealing With Lenin

(From the New York "Nation," July 12.)

THE NATION is enabled to give to its readers this week one of the most extraordinary and sensational contributions to the vexed questions of the relationship of the United States and the Allied Governments with Russia which has yet appeared. It is a wireless statement issued by the People's Russian Information Bureau in Buda Pest after its receipt early in June by wireless from Moscow over the signature of the Russian Government and it makes the direct and open charge that Wilson, Lloyd George and Colonel House drew up a new set of terms for a peace conference in Russia and for an Allied peace with Russia. This statement has been published in England, but so far as The Nation is aware only obscurely there. We give it in the exact form it reaches us, evidently somewhat injured in the double translation, but nevertheless telling the truth:

It is now evident that the Allied Governments—although professing to have abandoned the idea of military intervention in Russia—have, in reality, never changed their policy, and are secretly preparing, underhand, a new attack on the Russian Soviet Government. Under the pressure of working-class opinion, the Allied Powers have in the past made several peace proposals to Russia, but they have always formulated impossible terms. When the Soviet Power, to defeat these manoeuvres, did finally accept these terms, the Allied Powers then announced to the world that their proposals had been rejected. This was the policy followed both with regard to the invitation to the island of Prinkipo and to the proposal of Nansen.

Concerning the third peace offer, the Allied Powers thought it best not to give any public information, because, in this case the acceptance of their proposals by the Soviet Government could be proved by documents. This proposal was brought to Russia by the American, Bullitt, Captain Pettit and the journalist Steffens. The Soviet Government, at the Bullitt express request, reluctantly restrained its desire for an immediate publication of such terms.

Now, after the resignation of Bullitt from the Peace Delegation at Versailles, and the continued attempts made by the Allied Governments to overthrow the Soviet Power, and in the face of a further shedding of blood, the Soviet Government publishes to the world those peace conditions. They were drawn up by Wilson, Colonel House and Lloyd George, and were sent to us through Bullitt.

The Allied Governments invited all the Governments really existing in Russia to a new Peace Conference upon a basis agreed upon by all the Allied Powers, leaving only details to be further arranged. The Soviet Government made some modifications and these were accepted by Bullitt. The open invitation should have been sent out on the 10th of last April.

Since it was not the desire of the Allied Governments really to bring about peace, but only to hide from their peoples the continuation of the war, in the hope of finally ruining Russia, the invitation was not sent.

## The Allied Terms.

The principal points in the Allied terms were:

An armistice to be declared on all Russian fronts whilst the Peace Delegates were discussing the following:

1. All the Governments formed within the territory of the old Russian Empire to keep their full power over the territories occupied by them, until the inhabitants should declare the form of Government preferred by them.
2. None of such Governments to attempt to overthrow another by force.
3. The blockade of Russia to be raised.
4. Re-establishment of commercial relations.
5. All produce existing or received in Russia to be accessible to all classes of the population, with-

out any distinction.

6. All the above Russian Governments to grant full and complete amnesty to political opponents, soldiers included.

7. The Allied troops to evacuate Russia.

8. Simultaneous reduction of the Soviet and of the anti-Soviet armies to peace footing.

9. All the above Russian Governments to recognize, jointly, the financial obligations of the former Russian Empire.

10. Freedom of residence and movement of all Russian subjects over all parts of Russia.

11. Repatriation of all prisoners of war.

England and America were to guarantee the observance of these terms on the part of France.

Although the Red Army was then on the eve of taking possession of Odessa, the Crimea, and the Don region, the Soviet Government was ready to accept these terms; to accept the status quo; in the certain hope that the inhabitants of those parts of Russia not under the Soviet regime would, sooner or later, withdraw their support from their reactionary and monarchic Governments.

The publication of these proposals shows once more the hypocrisy of the Allied Governments, and exposes the lie that it was the Soviet Government which refused to cease hostilities. The double dealing of the Allied Governments has but one result, that of closing still further our ranks to fight to the last, against the unholy alliance of small and big Imperialist Governments in this attempt to enslave the workers and peasants of Russia.

The Nation itself is in a position, through information received direct from Paris, to state that the above facts are accurate, that Messrs. Bullitt and Steffens did take a memorandum into Russia

and that that memorandum was in the handwriting of Philip Kerr, private secretary to Mr. Lloyd George. That did not prevent Mr. Lloyd George from stating, in reply to a question in the House of Commons by Mr. Clynes asking as to "approaches alleged to have been made to his government," from Russian sources, "I think I know what my right honorable friend refers to. There is some suggestion that an American came back (from Russia.) It is not for me to judge the value of these communications, but if the President of the United States had attached any value to them he would have brought them before the Peace Conference.

This was a double prevarication made to the House of Commons because he was not only aware of the Kerr memorandum, but breakfasted with Mr. Bullitt as soon as Mr. Bullitt returned from Russia. Still he denied that Mr. Bullitt was on any official mission.

It is further of interest to know that Mr. Bullitt himself drew up the Nansen correspondence with the Big Four with the exception of the reply of the Council of Four to the Nansen proposition, which the Big Four substituted for Mr. Bullitt's draft, setting forth substantially the conditions cited above.

The above publication recalls the fact that The Manchester Guardian's Helsingfors correspondent as far back as May 27, asked who had suppressed Lenin's radiograms in which Lenin accepted the Nansen-Bullitt-Lloyd George-Wilson offer and asked for the naming of delegates. This publication proves once more how indebted the world is to the Lenin Government for throwing a little daylight upon the tortuous secret diplomacy which has gone on and is going on in Paris.

## The French Strikes

Paris, and indeed, most parts of France, is at present in the grip of a most serious strike movement. On Monday nearly 300,000 metal workers had come out on strike in the Paris area, the immediate cause being the attempt by the employers to reduce wages when the new eight-hour Act came into force. In the north, 80,000 miners are out. Next day the Paris tube-men came out, soon joined by the bus and tram workers and by Wednesday no less than twenty-seven trades in Paris and the provinces had joined the movement.

The main reasons of this movement, which is spreading fast, but so far in a completely orderly fashion, are high food prices (the cost of living had risen by the end of 1918, according to French official statistics, no less than 292 per cent. above the pre-war level,) the delay in demobilization, and the continuance of war. One-half of Paris dines and dances while the other half suffers. French soldiers are refusing to fight in Russia. The loss of Odessa was admittedly due to the refusal of soldiers and sailors to fight the Bolsheviks, and the C. G. T. has extracted a promise from M. Clemenceau that they will be withdrawn. But French Labor knows the value of the pledges of statesmen. Behind the general labor unrest evidenced in the present strikes is a growing determination against the policy of war against the new Socialist

Republics. On Tuesday, the French Socialist Party issued a strongly-worded appeal to agitate in all possible ways against the policy of intervention in Russia.

"It is to action," declares the manifesto, "that the Socialist Party calls you today. In England the industrial Triple Alliance threatens to down tools if it does not obtain the immediate recall of British troops in Russia. The Italian Socialist party is proposing a mass movement to our three proletariats. The French working class is preparing for it. This is no mere empty menace.

"To save the Russian and Hungarian revolutions, and with them the possibility of your own liberation, comrades of the Industrial and Socialist movements, hold yourselves ready to respond to the appeal of your class organizations!"

### CALL FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION.

For purposes of organizing a Communist Party of America, some members of the Minority group of the Left section of the Socialist Party of America have issued a call for delegates to attend a Convention to be held in Chicago on September 1, 1919. The issuers of the call claim that the result of a successful struggle of the Left section to capture the machinery of the Socialist Party would be an empty victory as the Right and Center sections would still remain in the party. And that it is just these elements which it is imperative, in the interest of the proletarian movement, that the revolutionaries should separate from.

The organization Committee are—

Dennis E. Blatt, D. Elbaum, O. C. Johnson, John Keracher, S. Kopnagel, I. Stilson, Alexander Stoklitsky.

Communications to be sent to the National office of the Organization Committee: O. C. Johnson, secretary, 1221 Blue Island Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

### AN ITEM DISCOVERED IN THE FINANCIAL COLUMN OF A VANCOUVER PAPER

"It is alleged by the New York bureau of legal advice that Ellis Island immigration officials attempted to deport Margaret and Jeanette Roy, Scotch sisters, held for four months after being ordered deported at Seattle as I.W.W. agitators, on board a cattle boat, the only women among a crew of a hundred men."