

# THE INTERNATIONAL

## GENERAL STRIKE

(Canadian Press Service.)

Helsingfors, Finland, Nov. 16.—A general strike of all workmen, including those on the railways, is in progress, and business life is at a standstill, except for the light and water plants and the hospital service.

Russian government troops have united with the proletariat Red Guard and are in control. The Bourgeois has organized a White Guard, which also is well armed.

## SOCIALISM IN JAPAN

The Social Democratic Party of Japan was organized and its manifesto published on the twentieth of May, 1901. Six hundred members, including the writer, were associated with the organization. This party was suppressed by the government on the day of its birth. But the Socialist propaganda was unrestricted, so that, in spite of the suppression of the party, the philosophy spread rapidly throughout Japan. The Socialists made a great fight during the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-5, and made many sympathizers.

In the summer of 1906, the Socialist Party of Japan was reorganized in Tokyo, and in a few months several hundred members were enrolled, and all indications pointed to a movement of growth and activity. The party had a Socialist daily in Tokyo in the spring of 1907, but it was quickly suppressed by the authorities. Since that time the Socialist Party legally was never permitted to exist until the present time.

Socialists in Japan have had hard, discouraging living the last ten years. Many have suffered prison life. Twelve have served life-terms for their agitation of revolutionary doctrines. Six have died in prison. Twelve have been hung. There are many in prison at the present moment for persisting in Socialist propaganda. Probably the treatment of the Socialists has been harsher and more cruel than that in any other country on earth. Notwithstanding this constant suppression, oppression, intimidation and rigorous punishment, however, scattered throughout Japan there are some seven thousands of Socialists. Many of these once active in the cause, quit for the sake of living. The remainder are true martyrs and bravely face all persecution that may be directed against them.

At the time of the last parliamentary election, the Socialists ran a candidate. Comrade Toshihiko Sakai assumed the responsibility in initiating this move. Five campaign meetings were held but all were broken up by the forces of the brutal police. Following this, the Socialists were entirely suppressed although the constitution guarantees them the right of liberty and freedom of speech. Moreover, in spite of the specific provision in the election law which allows candidates to hold campaign meetings during the two months previous to the day of election, the platform and manifesto of the Party were suppressed.

—S. Katayama in the Western Comrade.

## NEW RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT DECLARES ARMISTICE TO ARRANGE TERMS OF PEACE.

Petrograd, Nov. 23.—The note of Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki Foreign Minister to the allied embassies, conveying the announcement of the proposal for an armistice, reached the embassies Wednesday night. The text follows:

"I hereby have the honor to inform you, Mr. Ambassador, that the All-

Russian Congress of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates organized October 26 a new Government in the form of a Council of National Commissioners. The head of this Government is Vladimir Illich Lenin. The direction of the foreign policy has been entrusted to me, in the capacity of National Commissioner for Foreign Affairs.

"Drawing attention to the text of the offer of an armistice and a democratic peace on the basis of no annexations or indemnities and the self-determination of nations, approved by the All-Russian Congress of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates, I have the honor to beg you to regard the above document as a formal offer of an immediate armistice on all fronts and the immediate opening of peace negotiations—an offer with which the authoritative Government of the Russian Republic has addressed itself simultaneously to all the belligerent peoples and their Governments.

"Accept my assurances, Mr. Ambassador, of the profoundest respect of the Soldiers' and Workmen's Government for the people of France, which cannot help aiming at peace, as well as for the rest of the nations exhausted and made bloodless by this unexampled slaughter.

"L. Trotsky,

"National Commissioner for Foreign Affairs."

Buffalo, Nov. 17.—By a vote of 215 to 21, the American Federation of Labor to-day determined to abandon its life-long non-partisan attitude and actively enter American politics next year.

## FIRST PROLETARIAN REPUBLIC GREETES AMERICAN WORKERS

Message of Russian Uprising is Held Up Nearly Two Weeks by Censor—First Graphic Account of Dramatic Events of Rebellion Overthrowing Kerenski is Received.

John Reid, noted author, Socialist and war correspondent, has cabled to The New York Call a graphic account of the dramatic series of events which culminated in the overthrow of the Kerenski government and the triumph of the Bolsheviki. The cable, dated November 13, arrived in New York yesterday, after being held up by the censor, and is the first definite story of the uprising.

"The entire insurrection is a stirring spectacle of proletarian mass organization, action, bravery and generosity," Reed declares, after recounting the steps which led up to the flight of Kerenski.

The Workmen's, Soldiers' and Peasants' Councils, through The Call, send to the American International Socialists a greeting from the first proletarian republic of the world.

It would be idle to recount what Reed personally saw in other words than his own. Here is the cable:

(By John Reid.)

Petrograd, Nov. 13.—The Petrograd garrison, the Kronstadt sailors and the red guard, comprising as a whole the Bolsheviki army, last night defeated Kerenski's army of 7,000 Cossacks, junkers (students in military schools) and artillery, who were attacking the capital.

The attempted "junkers" insurrection on Sunday, directed by the committee of salvation, comprising Mensheviki (moderate Socialists) and Cadets (Constitutional Democrats), was put down by the Kronstadt sailors, who took an armored car and telephone station by assault, and also the "junkers" school.

Hundreds of delegates arrived at Smolny institute, the headquarters of

the revolutionary government and of the councils, to report the solidarity of the army at the front with the Bolsheviki.

## Proletariat is Triumphant.

This is the revolution, the class struggle, with the proletariat, the workmen, the soldiers and the peasants lined up against the bourgeoisie. Last February was only the preliminary revolution. At the present moment the proletariat are triumphant.

The rank and file of the Workmen's Soldiers' and Peasants' Councils are in control, with Lenin and Trotzky leading. Their program is to give the land to the peasants, to socialize natural resources and industry and for an armistice and democratic peace conference. The extraordinary and immense power of the Bolsheviki lies in the fact that the Kerenski government absolutely ignored the desires of the masses as expressed in the Bolsheviki program of peace, land and workers' control of industry.

The entire insurrection is a stirring spectacle of proletarian mass organization, action, bravery and generosity. This morning I was at the scene of the dispersal of the junkers defending the winter palace by the Soviet troops. In the afternoon I was present at the opening of the all-Russian Assembly of Soviets. In the evening I witnessed the assault on the winter palace, entering with the first Bolsheviki troops.

I saw Duma members going unarmed to die with the provisional government. I witnessed the arrest of the ministers.

## Death Penalty Abolished.

I was at the meeting of the city Duma (council) on the morning of the 26th, when the Mensheviki, Cadets and others declared against the Bolsheviki and formed a committee of salvation. During the night I witnessed a stormy meeting of the city regiments, deciding which side to support, and then attended the councils' meeting at Smolny institute, witnessing the declaration of peace and land; the decree abolishing capital punishment, and the taking over of the government by the councils and appointment of a new cabinet.

Then, on October 27, I watched the bourgeois counter-revolutionary movement growing. The city Duma visited the Peter-Paul fortress at midnight to see the prisoners. On the 28th rumors spread throughout the city that Kerenski was coming with troops.

I went to Tsarkoe Selo and saw the Bolsheviki troops falling back. War preparations were made at midnight in Smolny institute. On the 29th factories closed down and the red guard was ordered out. The whole city streamed out, men, women and children, with rifles and shovels. The telephone station and the Hotel Astoria were taken by junkers, but retaken by Bolsheviki sailors.

On the 30th victorious battles took place against the Kerenski troops at Ulkova, Krasnoie, Selo, Kolponne, Tsarkoe Selo and Gatchina.

I went to the front with the red guard.

## Insurrection in July.

The movement to give all power to the councils has been growing a long time. The attempt by the masses to force the councils to take the power in July resulted in the so-called Bolsheviki insurrection which was put

down by the Center Socialist parties, led by Lieber, Dan, Thaddeuli, Gotz, and so on, who held power.

The impotence of the provisional government created discontent and disgust and led to the astounding growth of the Bolsheviki, which growth was also accelerated by the Lieber, Dan group forcing a coalition with the Cadets, against the will of the Democratic Assembly held in September.

Meanwhile, with Lieber, Dan, etc., heading the Central All-Russian Council, the separate councils, one by one, went over to the Bolsheviki, and demanded the calling of a new All-Russian Assembly of the Councils, which was opposed by the old crowd, and also by the army, fleet, peasant and labor unions' committees, elected early in the revolution.

## Masses Thought Differently.

But the masses were of another mind and insisted on the calling together of the councils, insisted on all power to the councils, and on the downfall of the provisional government on the eve of the All-Russian meeting, which was sabotaged by the Lieber, Dan group, the Cadets, etc.

The provisional government made quiet preparations to suppress any demonstration for all power to the councils, and tried to send the revolutionary Petrograd garrison to the front and replace it with loyal troops. The garrison refused, and demanded representation on the staff, but was refused. The garrison then refused to take orders from anybody except the Petrograd council, which formed a military revolutionary committee.

"The army staff planned to take action, but was overheard on the nights of the 24th and 25th by the members of the Pavlovsk regiment, who at once began to arrest the staff and government. The insurrection was on and could not be stopped.

## Comprehensive Plan Executed.

The military revolutionary committee took charge and put into execution a perfect and comprehensive plan, captured the whole city and patrolled it the first three nights, while the insurrection was going on. There were no disorders and no crimes. The committee of Bolsheviki kept the town absolutely quiet.

"The many stories being sent out regarding Bolsheviki looting and murdering are without foundation. In fact, after being captured and released on the word of honor, many 'junkers' again took part in treacherous fighting. Some were murdered by their outraged opponents, but very few; while the Bolsheviki losses were five times as great.

"All newspapers except the Bolsheviki ones retailed lies to excite the population, and yet many of them were not suppressed. The City Duma is the center of absolute hostility to the Bolsheviki, with no workingman a member of it, but composed instead of the Center and Right Socialist parties, Cadets and all sorts of representatives of the bourgeoisie, breathing threats and even mobbing Bolsheviki guards they caught alone. Nevertheless, they have not been arrested.

"Now other Socialist parties are forming a new government and debating whether or not to allow the Bolsheviki to take part in it. No one is

(Continued on Page 8).

## Organizer's Maintenance Fund

The Workers of Canada await the message of emancipation. Send along your dimes and nickels. Drops of water make the ocean; let us have a tidal wave for Socialism.

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AMOUNT, \$..... c.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY..... PROVINCE.....