

government of a town, the police and firemen join them, and there is no overt act of which to take cognizance.

Yet nothing is done in any of these cities except by permission of the local Strike Committee. In Winnipeg the milk and bread wagons run by such a permit. The Post Office employees join the strikers in one city after another, and the mails are delivered only as the Strike Committee permits. The police of Winnipeg joined the strikers at first, but when the Winnipeg authorities proposed to raise a new police force the regular one returned to work. This sounds encouraging until you hear the reason. They returned to work so there should be nobody to interfere with the strikers, who as yet had committed no overt acts of disorder. In Calgary the mails are being distributed by volunteers, the regular postal force having quit. Volunteer fire departments are springing up through the West to take the places of the striking firemen. And all these strikes, even those of the Government employees, are sympathetic strikes.

"The banks of Winnipeg have closed their doors because they cannot do business with the mail and telegraph services disrupted. At the Fort Garry Hotel," says a correspondent, "meals are served only to women and children, perhaps by gracious permission of the Strike Committee granted to several restaurants in Winnipeg to keep open. It also permitted some bakeries to reopen on condition that they placed themselves under its jurisdiction."

"Our own laws may be different from those of Canada. Certainly the sanctity of the mails would not be interfered with without civil war. But as things stand, the Dominion is faced with a problem which its law seem powerless to avert. The House of Commons will debate the question to-day. Surely some way must be found by which a menaced Government may find a weapon with which to strike back and save itself."

From this editorial may be gleaned a hint of what would happen to such strikers in the United States. If there are no laws to interfere with peaceable strikers, the American government would pass them. If there were no riots to provoke massacres, the American capitalist class, and its press, would create them—as it has in other strikes we know of.

At present the Canadian Government does not seem to know what to do. But depend upon it, the capitalist government will find a way. It will suspend its own constitutional guarantees, it will abolish its own democratic political machinery. It will either yield the (at present) moderate demands of Canadian labor—and then emasculate its conditions—or it will find a way of applying force which will break the strike.

Then the workers of Canada—and we hope, of the United States—will learn the final lesson which proletarian revolutions all teach, and which Marx formulated:

"If the proletariat during its contest with the bourgeoisie is compelled, by the force of circumstances, to organize itself as a class; if, by means of a revolution, it makes itself the ruling class, and as such sweeps away by force the old conditions of production; then it will, along these conditions, have swept away the conditions for the existence of class antagonisms, and of classes generally, and will thereby have abolished its own supremacy as a class."

It matters not that the Canadian General Strike, and the Seattle Strike before it, were declared for the most elementary immediate demands. The process of the strike, and the logic of its inevitable conflict with the government, cannot fail to drive home the lesson that **no lasting working class reforms are possible under capitalist government; only the overthrow of the capitalist system, and the establishment of Proletariat Dictatorship, can solve the workers' problems and at the same time forever put an end to the class struggle.**

While the above was on press we received the following information: "In the early hours of June 17th many of the strike leaders in Winnipeg were taken from their beds and dragged secretly to Stony Mountain prison by official orders. Those arrested are: R. B. Russell, R. E. Bray, Geo. Armstrong, Rev. Wm. Ivens, Alderman J. Queen, Alderman A. A. Heap, M. Chartenoff and others. Warrants are issued for the arrest of S. Blumenberg, W. A. Pritchard. The Winnipeg Labor Temple was surrounded by police and raided under the direction of Inspector Nead, of the North-West Mounted Police."

"It is anticipated that all strike leaders and labor agitators west of Winnipeg will be handled in the same ruthless fashion."

"Governments are used to protect the interests of the Master Class and keep the slave class in subjection." Government MEANS TO GOVERN and presupposes a "Master" and a "slave." Workers, understand your slave position.

Arise, ye prisoners of starvation,
Arise, ye wretched of the earth,
For Justice thunders condemnation,
A better world's in birth—"

The Famine in India

Extract from *The Nation*

It is hard to understand what some men are made of. How can Lloyd George hold up his head when he reads such statements as have been put out recently by the India Famine Fund Committee in regard to conditions in India for which he, as Premier of Great Britain, is responsible? This English organization, through its Canadian branch, has published an advertisement in the leading Canadian papers from which we take the following facts: "Plague and famine are rampant in India. Death stalks through the land, taking its toll. The existing conditions are unparalleled elsewhere in the history of the world." This Committee estimates that thirty-two millions of death have already taken place and that a hundred and fifty millions of people are on the verge of starvation. "There has been no rain since May last (1918) and consequently the country is literally burnt up by the tropical heat. The poor have eaten all their food. . . . The cities are people by emaciated humanity. Traffic has ceased, mails are undelivered, and business is at a standstill."

"In England the 'Fight the Famine Council' has appealed for an immediate peace of reconciliation for the relief of starving Europe and India. But from Mr. Lloyd George comes not one syllable to show that he realizes the situation or that he is moved in the slightest degree by the plight of these Indian wards of the British Empire. Instead, the Government of India becomes more despotic every day. No newspaper may now be printed or published without previous sanction by the local Government, and everywhere the rioting due to hunger and misgovernment has been suppressed in the most ruthless fashion, airplanes being used 'most effectively' in the Punjab as in Egypt. Everywhere the leaders of Indian public opinion are signing a pledge that they will 'refuse civilly to obey the new coercion bills' as 'subversive of the principles of liberty and justice, and one would think that the men under whose government such things can happen would be remembering an old saying about not judging lest one be judged."

The state of the whole world is so appalling that a peace of reconciliation is obviously the need of the hour, and with it the restoring of the normal processes of life in every country. The warnings which are coming to us from across the seas should not fall upon deaf ears, yet they do not mean that the way out is to accept forthwith the monstrous peace of Versailles. They are but a fresh challenge to the world to strive anew for those wonderful ideals set forth by Mr. Wilson only to be abandoned by him.

The Soviet Conquerors

By N. Lenin

(From the Moscow "Pravda," March 6—Issued to the World by Radio)

Nothing is firm in a revolution except what has been achieved by the masses of the people. It will therefore be sufficient to record in writing our real and solid conquests:

The founding of the Third (Communist) International at Moscow on March 2nd, 1919, was the expression not only of the Russian proletarian masses, but of those of all nations of Russia, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Finland, Switzerland, in a word of the proletarian masses of the world.

This is precisely the reason why the founding of the Third (Communist) International is a lasting work. But four months ago, it was still impossible to say that the Power of Soviets, the Soviet form of the State, constituted an international achievement. There was in this form an essential element which belonged not only to Russia but to all the capitalist countries. But it was still impossible to declare in advance what changes would be made in this form by the later development of the world revolution.

The German revolution was the necessary experiment performed to answer these questions. The most advanced capitalist country presented to the entire world, following the most reactionary capitalist country, within the short space of a hundred days, not only fundamentally the same revolutionary forces, not only the same general direction of events, but even the same essential form of the new proletarian masses: the Shop Stewards committees.

In America, the most powerful capitalist country, and the youngest, there is an immense sympathy of the working masses for the Soviets.

The ice is broken. The Soviets have triumphed all over the world. They have triumphed particularly and above all in the sense that they