

# THE INTERNATIONAL

## CONSCRIPTION FOR ALIENS

Carried In British Commons By Large Majority.

The old scheme, the compulsory alternative for the Russian emigrants either to enter the British army or to return to Russia, which, in fact, meant and still means the destruction of the right of asylum, has at last become an accomplished fact. British Imperialism has succeeded in inducing the young popular Government of Russia to sign a convention for the mutual compulsion of their subjects to military service. The old-established rights of the foreigner are gone. Militarism becomes international, one country conscripts for another, and leaving the country of origin does not mean any more escaping the grip of the home government. Imperialism and reaction have thus made a great step forward on the part of subjecting the Russian Revolution to their own aims, of exploiting it for the purpose of strengthening their power over the masses in other countries.

The Committee of Delegates of the Russian Socialist Groups in London demands the immediate abrogation of this convention, and declares that the International Socialists from Russia to Britain will not surrender to any more of Imperialist reaction. Many of them have gone and will go to Russia in order to take part there in the struggle against world-reaction and Imperialism and in revolutionary action. Those among them who will remain in Britain will continue here the same struggle. They will not yield to the new advance of Imperialism, and have decided to refuse military service here. Through their act of resistance they will protest against British Imperialism, against the militarism of young democratic Russia, against international reaction. Their resistance will be a call to mass-action against Imperialism and for Socialism. They know the consequences of their refusal; they know also that the future is theirs, and whatever they may have to undergo, they see in their action a step forward on the path toward their final victory.

The Committee of Delegates of the Russian Socialist Groups in London.

## REMEMBER THE BETRAYERS

The voting list for the Second Reading is interesting. Only 19 could be found to uphold the Right of Asylum. These included: Anderson, Jowett, MacDonald, Snowden, Harvey, King, Lambert, Outhwaite, and Trevelyan.

The proud supporters of Conscription for every form of human life included—note the names well: Barnes, Brace, Clynes, Crooks, Duncan, Finney, Hodge, Parker, Roberts, Walsh, Wardle, and Wilson.

## RED LETTONIA

The Lettish Social Democracy throughout the war has taken an internationalist attitude, though part of its home—Courland, of the Baltic Provinces—was invaded by the Germans and devastated by the belligerents. Lettish Social Democracy held that war is not a weapon in the Socialist armory, and advocated the class struggle.

As soon as the Tsar was hot off the throne the Lettish Social-Democrats began their activity in broad daylight. The paper "Zihna" they published at Brussels before the war and smuggled into the Baltic Provinces, they restarted as a daily at Petrograd. Comrade Stutschka, one of the veterans of the Lettish movement, became its editor. He was editor of the legal daily, "Deenas Lapa," suppressed in the nineties at Riga. Stutschka is

also a member of the Executive Committee of the Petrograd Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates.

The Riga Council of the Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates on May 24th decided to suspend the publication of its own organ, "Sinotajs," and to take over the "Zihna" as its official organ. The management of the Riga Council itself has passed into the hands of the Social Democrats.

Lettish Social Democracy has already won a political victory. The Provisional Russian Government appointed Krastkalns, a lawyer, to fill the place of the Governor of Livonia. The Social-Democrats protested, and secured the appointment of comrade Priedkalns, who sat for Riga in the third Duma.

The Lettish Social Democrats belong to the Left of the Russian Social Democratic Party. They held a Party Conference last May; they have about 2,000 members in evacuated Riga, and large numbers are joining the party in agricultural districts. The resolution concerning the war says: "There can be no talk of a war of defence or of a war of liberation, for the war is being waged by classes which are directly interested in the exploitation of other nations and in the annexation of foreign territories. . . . This makes it a self-understood thing that the Third International can be composed only of such Social Democratic parties as recognize the class struggle, even in time of war, and not of the sundry currents."

In regard to new Russia the Lettish Social Democrats demand complete autonomy for the Lettish territories. All large landed estates are being confiscated in favor of the nation. There can be no question of the land being parcelled out to petty owners. The Party is to continue its attitude of no truce with the exploiting classes, and is to hold high the banner of the class struggle till the Revolution is completely victorious.—"The Call," England.

## BRITISH WORKERS AND SOLDIERS FROM GENERAL COUNCILS

The workers and soldiers of Britain are getting together. Delegates from trade unions, branches, councils, I.L.P., the B.S.P., and other democratic organizations are now meeting in different parts of the country. Resolutions demanding peace without annexation or indemnities are the order of the day.

## ORGANIZED ANARCHY

The sinister methods adopted in Canada and the United States by the enemies of true democracy are being organized in Britain. With reference to the hooligan outrages the "British Call" deliberates thus: "If the forces of 'Law and Order' fail in their duty, then such steps will be taken that will ensure quiet and orderly gatherings." The South Wales Miners are considering strike action in order to obtain this legitimate demand.

## FEDERAL AGENTS HOLD SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY

Chicago, Aug. 11.—Adolph Germer, national secretary of the Socialist party, is in custody of federal agents for alleged insolent reference to the recruiting service.

Two men who attempted to interfere when he was arrested were also jailed.

## PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES HAVE RIGHT TO DEFINE AMERICA'S WAR OBJECTS—LA FOLLETTE.

(From The Call's Washington Bureau) Washington, Aug. 11.—Senator La Follette of Wisconsin introduced in

## DELEGATES TO SASKATCHEWAN CONVENTION



From Left to Right—Standing: Comrades Stewart, Bergdoz, Arrack, Mezzatesta, Smith, Short. Kneeling: Comrades Fahrenkrog, Herriman.

the Senate to-day a peace resolution declaring that Congress has complete authority under the constitution to "declare the objects and purposes" for which the United States shall continue in the European war.

The resolution demands that the United States government shall not assist the allies either to annex new territory or to collect indemnities, and calls upon the belligerent nations to provide a common fund for the restoration of devastated territories, the fund to be allotted by an international commission.

The resolution further declares for a public restatement of the peace terms of the entente allies, and stipulates that the terms must be based on the complete disavowal of any advantages of any sort.

## LIEBKNECHT IS FREE AND DYING, GENEVA REPORT

Brave Internationalist of Germany Victim of Tuberculosis and Brutal Treatment.

Paris, Aug. 10.—Karl Liebknecht may be free—and dying. The intrepid Socialist, whose defiance of militarism in Germany won him a sentence of four years and one month in prison, after a trial by court-martial, is reported in a dispatch from Geneva to have been freed by the government for fear of his dying in prison. He is said to be suffering from tuberculosis and "inhuman treatment in prison," and to weigh only 84 pounds. Liebknecht was arrested after the May day demonstrations in Berlin in 1916.

The report is contained in a dispatch from the Temps' Geneva correspondent, who says:

"The news was brought here by a Hollander who has just arrived from Germany. He says the trade union organizations brought pressure upon the government for the release of Dr. Karl Liebknecht, who is now in a private hospital and is not expected to recover, suffering, in addition to the lung malady, from mental depression, the result of inhuman treatment while in prison."

Besides the sentence which he was serving, Liebknecht was reported to have been sentenced to four and a half years at hard labor on a charge of inciting the soldiers of the garrison at Thorn to rebel.

## SOCIALISTS IN MINN. 'DEMOCRACY' VICTIMS

J. O. Bentall, Candidate for Governor, and State Secretary Accused by Military Power.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 11.—Opponents of the draft and Socialists in Minnesota are feeling the iron hand of the government.

J. O. Bentall, Socialist candidate for governor, is the latest victim. He was arrested at his farm at Litchfield, Minn., by federal officials and was held without bond. He is charged with "at-

tempting to cause insubordination, mutiny and refusal of duty in the military forces of the country."

A. L. Sugarman, state secretary of the Socialist party, is also under arrest.

City and county officials at New Ulm, Minn., were cited to appear before the state public safety commission to answer charges of participation in a recent meeting there for the repeal of the draft law.

W. F. Bergmeier, editor of the Volkszeitung, German language paper, is in jail, without bond, for alleged violation of the enemy alien proclamation. Call despatch.

## CONGRESSMAN LONDON DEMANDS A STATEMENT OF PEACE TERMS

Washington, D.C., August 6.—Meyer London, Socialist representative from New York, has introduced a joint resolution in the House of Representatives calling upon the legislative bodies of the countries now at war with Germany to elect from their membership an "interparliamentary conference" to reach a common understanding of the basic principles upon which a lasting peace may be established.

The resolution requests the President to convey the invitation to the governments of the nations to provide for the election of the delegates to the conference, which is to be held in Washington.

London's resolution is the first concrete proposition yet presented to Congress placing upon the parliaments of the warring countries the responsibility of determining terms of peace.

## CLARENCE DARROW TAKES UP CENSORSHIP OF PRESS WITH PRESIDENT WILSON

As we go to press, word comes from Washington that Clarence Darrow, representing The American Socialist, has had an interview with President Wilson on the question of the press censorship. Full details in our next issue. Darrow has been in the cast for the past two weeks exerting every effort possible to have the administration raise the censorship against the Socialist and Labor press. We are hoping his efforts have been crowned with success.

The Dominion Secretary is taking a few days on the hike. The country air and absence of financial worry will re-inforce him for the work ahead.

## The Price We Pay

By Irwin St. John Tucker

Per 1000, -	Prepaid, -	\$3.00
" 500, "		1.60
" 100, "		.40