

THE INTERNATIONAL

KAMENEFF ON MAXIMALIST POLICY.

Kameneff on Maximalist Policy.
Kameneff, the Maximalist delegate sent from Petrograd to England and France, has made some very interesting statements at Stockholm. According to him, the Bolsheviks have accomplished what no other Government could have succeeded in doing: "The German working classes have no confidence in President Wilson or Lloyd George, but when they have been convinced that we are destroying militarism and are opposed to imperialism, we have attained the principal results of the negotiations. Peace will not come from Brest-Litovsk, but will be imposed by the masses in the streets of Berlin and Vienna."

"Either revolution will triumph in Europe or revolutionary Russia will perish. The basis of Maximalist policy is to cause the social revolution to penetrate Western Europe, connecting with Germany. . . . The recent strikes in Berlin are the direct result of our attitude at Brest-Litovsk. We are experts in what concerns revolution, and we know very well that the rising could not succeed at the first blow, taking into account German discipline. But the strike of a million men is a remarkable success. I consider that the policy of the Entente is very seriously wrong. Instead of forcing Germany to show her cards, it is encouraging Finland, the Ukraine, and Roumania. Finland is pro-German, recognized by Berlin, and now supported by the German Government. The Ukraine has concluded a separate peace, and Roumania is on the point of doing so. We consider that President Wilson is the only man who has dared to recognize the truth concerning the Bolshevik attitude with regard to the war. The first version of his message was distorted, four points of it having been suppressed. The whole world must be reorganized and secret diplomacy abolished."

GERMAN SOCIALIST SUCCESS

On January 25th, at the bye-election in the third Reichstag division of Saxony, the Socialist candidate, Uhlig polled at the second ballot 9,661 votes and the Conservative 8,763. In the first ballot the Progressive received 3,526, the Socialist 6,916, and the Conservative 6,957. The local Centre Press called on its supporters to vote Conservative, but Erzberger urged the Centre voters to vote for the Socialists on the peace issue. The result was therefore a victory for Socialism and peace by understanding.

CONFERENCE OF THE FRENCH MINORITY

On February 16th the Minority Socialists held a very successful conference, at which most of the party district sections were represented. Most of the speakers demanded more vigorous action by their representatives. After a long discussion it was decided that the Socialist Commissioners should withdraw from the Committees (such as the Marine, Agricultural, etc.) on which they had been sitting. The resolution in this sense obtained 624 votes, as against 274 cast for Longuet's motion allowing them to retain their posts until the completion of their tasks. Bouisson, one of the Commissioners, explained that he had full power in his hands and he would use it for the benefit of the workers and to stop the scandalous profiteering of the employers; his resignation

would be the triumph of the latter. But even this did not convince the conference.

Another interesting point of the conference was the evident general agreement that at last the time had arrived when war credits should no longer be voted. The discussion was seemingly devoted as to the form of the resolution, some desiring to make of the vote against war credits a matter of general principle, whilst others maintained that they were only in favor of voting against the war credits because the war was no longer one of national defence for France. It is to be hoped that at least the Minority deputies in the Chamber will now follow the lead of their conference.

The conference also voted a resolution of sympathy with and protest against the arrest of various militants, sent fraternal greeting to Lazari, the secretary of the Italian party now under arrest; and protested emphatically against the mental examination of Comrade Helene Brion. A resolution on the persecution of Russians in France has been suppressed by the French Censor.—The Call, England.

TROTSKY DENOUNCES IMPERIALISTS.

Trotsky has denounced the Anglo-Russian agreement of 1907 for the partition of Persia into "spheres of interest," an agreement which, as he says, "was directed against the liberty and independence of the Persian people." The Russian Government "will do all in its power in the domain of international relations to bring about a complete evacuation of Persia by Turkish and British troops."

SINN FEIN vs. BOLSHEVIKS.

The Sinn Feiners, in seizing land in the name of the Irish Republic, and in refusing to allow the export of pigs and other food urgently required in Ireland, seem to have caught the Bolshevik spirit. If the Sinn Feiners will steer their course in accordance with the Socialist ideal they will achieve great good for the people of Ireland. Even if they do no more than secure Irish independence, they will clear away the great obstacle to the growth of the Socialist movement in Ireland, but if they will make their Republic a Socialist one, they will avoid much subsequent pain and conflict.—Workers' Dreadnought.

THE UKRAINE PEACE.

The final blow to the Entente's confidence in the anti-Bolshevik Government of the Ukraine was dealt on February 9, when the representatives of that Government signed a separate peace with the Central Powers. We do not know the terms, because anti-Bolshevik governments do not negotiate in public; but we do not think we are far wrong in supposing that the Central Powers, in return for promises of supplies, have undertaken to give military help to the Ukraine Rada in its fight against the Bolsheviks. We wonder what part the £9,000,000 and the military mission, which the French Government sent to help the Rada a short time ago, will play in the fight?—Labor Leader.

GERMAN MINORITY SOCIALISTS DEMAND PEACE.

The Manchester Guardian on February 11 published an appeal, which was issued by the Independent Socialists on January 10, and which must have had great influence in

AGENTS-PROVACATEURS IN BRITAIN IN 1817

(Labor Leader.)

The following passage, taken from the "History of the Peace, 1817," by H. Martineau (vol. b., page 148), is of special interest in these days:

We did not think that the facts which time has revealed warrant us in going so far as Sir Samuel Romilly, who in his place in Parliament declared on January 27, 1818 (that in his conscience he believed the whole of the Derbyshire insurrection was the work of the person sent by government, but we do think these facts justify a strong conviction that without the agency of these persons the insurrection would not have taken place. . . . In March a person calling himself a delegate came to London from one of the Midland districts, and was introduced to one of similar opinions. He of similar opinions gave discouraging information as to the state of public feeling in the capital. The representations of the delegate as to the impatience of the country districts to throw off the yoke, as he termed it, were not responded to. But he met two other persons ready to return with him as delegates from London, and Mr. Oliver proposed to go along with them, making a fourth delegate. Before they proceeded on their journey, Oliver was in communication with the Home Office; but received no instructions to compromise the safety of anyone by tempting them into practices which he afterwards exposed. The co-delegates relied fully on Oliver—the country delegates introduced him to all his friends as a second self. Oliver remained among these people from April 17 to May 27, everywhere received as the London delegate. He was examined before the secret committee, and told them he was very

of giving information; what he said was that London was ready to rise, and only wished to know what assistance could be derived from the country. His friend, the country delegate, gave effect to this information by telling his brethren, the country delegates, that 75,000 individuals could be relied on in the eastern part of the capital, and 75,000 in the west. Mr. Ponsonby thus showed, with a moderation and candor most advantageously contrasted with the frenzied declamations against individual members of the government, made by such popularity hunters as Sir Francis Burdett and Mr. Grey Bennett, that the representations of Oliver himself, and the representations which he permitted to be made with his knowledge and approval, did excite the wretched individuals with whom the spy delegate conversed to acts of rebellion or insubordination. But Mr. Ponsonby only traced Oliver to May 27. We are now able to follow his course up to the moment of the Derbyshire insurrection. On June 6 an outbreak in Yorkshire was expected and the delegates were arrested at

leading up to the strikes. The appeal shows up the insincerity of the German negotiations at Brest, and concludes:

"Women and men of the working classes, there is no time to lose. After all the past horror and suffering, a new and terrible calamity is threatening our people and the whole of mankind. Only peace without annexations and compensation, and upon the basis of the peoples' self-determination, can save us. It is time now to raise your voice, in favor of such a peace. Now is your turn."

Thornhill-lees, near Dewsbury. On the day of the meeting Oliver called on Mr. Williams, a bookseller of Dewsbury, and urged him to attend the meeting of the delegates at Thornhill-lees. Williams, having some suspicion of the incendiary, refused to go. Oliver himself attended the meeting, and was arrested with the others; but in the evening he was at large in Wakefield, and entering the coach to go to Leeds was accosted by the liveried servants of Sir John Byng, who commanded the forces in the district. This servant, after his master had gone, said that a few days before he had driven him in a gig from his master's house to meet a coach. . . . After the Derby insurrection three men were executed, eleven were transported for life, four for fourteen years, and five were imprisoned for various terms.

PROFESSOR MACIVER SCORES A BULL.

The renowned professor, speaking before the Canadian Club, invests himself of the following:

"The demand has come from labor for what may be called industrial democracy," he continued. "Here is the heart of the present situation: Is labor to be a commodity, to be bought and sold like any other, subject to the vicissitudes of a mere article of trade? Or is labor to be an effective partner of capital, a citizen and not merely a subject in the kingdom of industry? There seems to be no third possibility. No mere schemes of arbitration and conciliation, no systems of profit-sharing will heal this great and growing division. They have been tried and found wanting. In the present temper of labor there is not the slightest hope of success attaching to any scheme for bringing labor and capital into harmony which does not admit labor to a common council table with capital, not merely when disputes have already arisen but all the time."

Economic Democracy.

When the war is over labor will be left in a position of strength unknown before, Prof. MacIver declared, and pointed out that in European countries the labor party is the only party which professes a sweeping programme of reconstruction. "A definite programme of this kind has a great advantage in a time of grave instability like the present," he remarked. "The soldiers who return to the workshops will do so in the consciousness of having deserved well of the country to which they offered their lives. This will give a great moral support to their demands for industrial security. They will demand employment, and it must be found for them. If labor alone has a clear programme for assuring this and other objects, then the programme of labor will win against all opposition."

"Some form of economic democracy is almost certain to be the outcome," he declared, and pointed out that mere opposition would likely "turn a peaceful into a catastrophic process, an evolution into a revolution."

Napoleon I. once remarked to those who were in attendance at the Court of France: "Empires generally die of indigestion through having swallowed too much territory." There's no doubt about the accuracy of Napoleon's observation.