THE SOVIET

Devoted to the Interests of the Working Class

VOL. I, No. 14.

EDMONTON, ALTA., JULY 5TH, 1919.

BUSINESS MANAGER, BOX 1682

Edmonton, July 1st.—In the early hours of the morning the offices and headquarters of the Socialist Party of Canada weer raided by the R. N. W. M. P. A small amount of literature and a few letters were taken away. No Bolshevik "bullion" was discovered.

This is a part of a Dominion-wide search party that has been launched by the Government. Labor and Socialist halls have been microscopically examined, men have been shot, strikers arrested, labor leaders and socialists imprisoned and their homes turned upside down. From all this, our "safe" and "sane" Labor leaders, opportunists and parsons would have us believe that there is no "Class War;" no, fellow-workers, it is indeed a love feast.

The War to end War, the War for "Democracy" is over, and all are clasped in a loving embrace.

THE BOLSHEVIK AGITATION IN HUNGARY.

At the time when the reptile press of the Allies was insisting that the Bolsheviki had definitely proven that they were pro-German by signing the Brest-Litovsk peace, the Bolshevik party was actively carrying on its revolutionary agitation among the Austro-German prisoners of war in Russia, among the Austro-German troops, and in Austria, Hungary and Germany.

The work of organizing the Hungarian prisoners was put in charge of Bela Kun, a Magyar Socialist, himself a prisoner in one of the concentration camps. To-day Bela Kun is head of the Soviet republic of Hungary. The origin of the upheaval that turned the ancient Hungarian realm into a stronghold of Bolshevism certainly deserves the adjective humle. It was a four-page paper, published in the Magyar language at Moscow twice a week under the title "Szocialis Forradalom," meaning "social revolution."

The first numer of "The Social Revolution" was issued on April 3, 1918. Its editorial office was in room 201 of the Hotel Dresden, Moscow. The first number carried an article by N. Bucharin, editor of the "Communist," entitled "Why Are We Communists?" Another article, headlined "And You Will Rebel Yet," addressed to the German and the Austro-Hungarian armies, appeared with the signature of Karl Radek. Bela Kun had a two column editorial, entitled, "What Is Imperialism?"

The programme of the new paper was announced on page one as

"With the first issue of 'The Social Revolution' a little group of Magyar Communists joins the battle for the international social revolution. We have to struggle on two fronts at the same time.

"We shall fight ruthlessly, without compromise, for the destruction of the oppressor of proletarians and poor peasants; the social order based on capitalistic production. But we shall fight none the less ruthlessly against the official Social Democratic parties, which before and during the war have betrayed the cause of proletarian liberties.

"We stand firmly on the basis of class war. Under no circumstances do we recognize a social truce.

"Our creed is revolutionary Marxism. To spread this doctrine, the scientific expression of proletarian class struggle, in a popular form, so as to make it intelligible to all, will be one of the principal aims of this newspaper.

"Our aim is the armed rebellion of proletarians and peasants for the capture of the power of state; social revolution without delay."

The paper contains several articles attacking bitterly the German Majority Socialists led by Scheidemann, as well as the official Social Democratic party of Hungary. The Stockholm conference is assailed as a reactionary bourgeois gathering.

The peace of Brest-Litovsk is denounced in the article by Radek

as "the peace of the victorious brigands." He flays the profetarian soldiers of Germany, Austria and Hungary for their submissiveness, for their "treachery toward the Russian revolution," and concludes:

"You will have to rise against your governments, you German, Austrian, Magyar slaves, because nobody else can do that job for you. The German government is the bulwark of reaction in Europe. Germany is the prison of peoples. It is up to you, slaves, it is your duty, to blow up the gates of that prison. Everything else is futile. Revolution or a slow bleeding to death; this can be the only choice. And you will rebel yet."

PROLETARIAN DICTATORSHIP

Speech by N. Lenin.

Though the last Moscow Soviet Congress came to the conclusion that the main task of the Russian Soviet Government is the creation of a rigid organization together with a strengthening of discipline, the majority of the workers do not consider the application of compulsion and dictation necessary to the realization of these decisions. The presumption that the transition from capitalism to Socialism will be possible without compulsion and dictation, is Utopian and senseless. The Marxian theory most emphatically refutes all such pettybourgeois, democratic, anarchistic nonsense. The development of Russia during the year 1917-18, has irrefutably confirmed the Marxian conception, and only those who are very stupid or who wilfully pervert the truth, can fail to comprehend this. Either the dictatorship of Kornilov or the dictatorship of the proletariat; there can be no other way thanks to the tremendous "tempo" of development in Russia and the sudden transitions due to the disorganization created by the war.

There are two causes which make dictatorship imperative during the transition period from capitalism to Socialism—and the dictatorship aims in two directions. The proletariat cannot conquer without suppressing the ruling classes, who are not willing to renounce their privileges, and who will endeavor to overthrow the hated power of the proletariat. On the other hand, no great revolution, and above all no Socialist revolution, is possible without civil war—even if no exterior war is fought. It does not require much mental exertion to understand that various elements, mostly those connected with the petty bourgeoisie, cannot but reveal themselves in their true light by robbery, speculation, bribery, etc., and time and an iron hand are required to suppress these things.

In all great revolutions the people have instinctively understood the true state of affairs, and acted without mercy against the burglars, who were often shot out of hand. The misfortune of former revolutions was that the enthusiasm which is necessary for the realization of these measures, was of short duration. This enthusiasm animated masses only for a short time, because the workers played a relatively unimportant part in former revolutions. The proletariat is able, if it is numerically strong, disciplined and class-conscious, to attract the majority of the laboring and exploited masses and thus retain power long enough to effectively suppress all exploiters and all elements of decay. This supports the historic experience which Marx recapitulated in a brief but drastic formula: "the proletarian dictatorship."

That the Russian revolution trod the right path in order to fulfill the historic mission of the workers is proven by the triumph which has been attained by all the peoples of Russia, through the Soviet power. The Soviet power is the organization of the proletarian dictatorship, the vanguard of the class which is creating a new democracy and inducing millions, nay tens of millions, of the laboring and exploited masses to participate independently in the affairs of the state—to administer the state. These masses learn through their own experiences to select the most reliable leaders among the disciplined and conscious vanguard of the proletariat.

But "dictatorship" is a word which should not be used merely as a hollow sound. Dictatorship means iron might, a revolutionary, energetic power, inexorable in the suppression of exploiters, as well as the slum-proletariat (hoodlums). Hitherto the proletarian dictatorship has not been steadfast enough. It must not be forgotten that the bourgeoisie and petty bourgeoisie combat the Soviet power in two different ways: in the first place, by overt methods of conspiracy, Kornilovist riots, lies in the press of the Cadets, Mensheviki and Right-Social-Revolutionaries; and in the second place, by concealed means