

else it begs the whole question. Are workmen who hold Bolshevik opinions or who have sons in the Red Army innocent people? Even if he says no, it would still be true that thousands of innocent people who had committed neither of these crimes have been executed by the 'Whites.' But the point seems hardly worth discussing. . . . The Whites make no secret whatever of their intentions. They regard the literal decimation of the working class as an absolutely necessary preliminary in the re-establishment of any firm government in Russia. In places like Moscow, where Bolshevism has a firm hold, they declare their intention of executing a higher proportion than one in ten—*pour encourager les autres*. And probably from their own point of view they are right. There is certainly no other means by which such men as Denikin could hope to re-establish themselves in power in Russia."

International Labor and Socialist News

JAPAN

The Socialists of Tokio and Yokohama, in a recent address to the Russian Government, declare,

"All our eyes are turned to the progress of the Russian Revolution, and it is with the deepest sympathy that we observe the brave advance of the Russian proletariat—an advance which produces an ineffaceable impression on the soul of the Japanese people. We are full of indignation at the way the Japanese Government on one pretext or another, has sent its troops into Siberia to suppress the free development of the Russian Revolution. We profoundly regret that we have not the strength to overcome the great danger with which you are menaced by our Imperialistic Government, but you may be sure that however much we may be persecuted by our government at the present moment, the flag of liberty shall float over Japan also."

SPAIN

The Socialist party recently held a celebration in honor of the Russian, German and Austrian Revolutions. The Russian Soviets were praised, and the Spanish people were called upon to follow the example of the Russian revolutionists. Resolutions were adopted, declaring:

"The working class means at once a demand to establish a new regime in place of the Monarchy—a regime in which the people will have the power in their own hands. It is to be a Socialistic Republic in which capitalist privileges will be destroyed, in which the exploitation of human beings will become impossible, and in which the just demands of the Proletariat will be fulfilled."

RUSSIA

Capt. J. Sadoul, pro-war Socialist, who was sent to Russia by the French Government at the suggestion of Albert Thomas, then Minister of Munitions, has written to Romain Rolland as follows:

"I have now come to the conclusion that Lenin and Trotsky have a clearer vision than we opportunists and conciliatory Socialists, and that they are greater realists. Facts seem already to prove them right; from the frightful ruins of ten months of systematic destruction, the strong shoots of a new organization are beginning to appear, and in a few years will bear fruit. But even up to now, in all fields, administrative, military and economic the amount of creative work accomplished is immense. It would be dishonest and foolish to deny this. If the Soviets had not been cut off from their granaries, their industrial centres, their iron and coal mines, and their petroleum wells; if they had not been ruined, starved and blood-soaked by the foreigners, if they had only had to fight against the Russian bourgeoisie and the political and economic sabotage organized by the counter-revolution—who knows but that they would already have successfully carried through the first stages of a communist organization?"

WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY WILL REST

(New York Nation)

The old European civilization has passed away forever; we are watching beyond the Atlantic the birth of a new order—not in Paris, where we witness only the vain attempt of politicians to keep alive a decrepit state system by injecting into its hardened arteries the saline solution of a league of nations falsely so called. No, the new order comes to birth where the pulsing life of the peoples begins to find expression in new forms of economic and political organization which better meet the needs of human beings. It comes with travail and sometimes bloodshed, as in Russia and Germany, but it comes—not only on the Continent, but in England; not only in England, but here in the United States, where a few short months ago reaction seemed to hold us in a vise-like grip. The transfer of power to the masses of men, with the accompanying break-up of economic priv-

ilege, is occurring before our eyes all over the world, and even if we did not see the same processes beginning here, it would be inconceivable that the United States alone should remain immune. Today sober and competent observers the country over admit that the revolution is upon us; it is ours to ride the storm.

With their thinking faculties apparently paralyzed with fear, the holders of power in this country turn unseeing eyes upon Russia. They perceive only that social disorganization has occurred and that privilege has crumbled. They do not observe that the mighty of Russia chose to rely on forcible repression, and that while repression did not in the end suffice to maintain their privilege, it brought in its train disorganization and the machine gun as the technique of the revolution. The spectacle is terrifying, and the ordinary American beholder turns from its contemplation to bow down in gratitude before our Gregorys and Overmans and Hansons, prayerfully beseeching them to save us from the same dread fate. But in his blindness the American overlooks the fundamental fact. Privilege in Russia was out-grown, and it inevitably fell; it is out-grown here, and here, too, it is about to fall. The appeal to the little gods of force can mean only, here as it meant there, that the unavoidable fall will be accompanied by violence, bloodshed, and disorganization. The responsibility will rest with those who attempt to resist an inevitable social process with machine guns.—New York Nation.

British Fair Play And The Rights of Small Nations

Ireland elected 73 Sinn Fein members to represent the people of that small nation and her is an account of how their RIGHTS are acknowledged by Great Britain:

"Of the newly-elected Sinn Fein members forty are in England or Irish jails, mostly without trial, while about a dozen more are 'on the run,' wanted on various 'sedition' charges. Two were arrested since election, Cathal Brugha, M.P. for Tipperary, for giving his name in Irish to the police, and Mr. William Sears, Mayo editor of the 'Enniscourt Echo,' for an 'inflammatory' speech. The Sinn Fein election director was arrested in the middle of the election campaign and interned (without charge) in England, Sinn Fein election addresses and literature were seized by the police during the campaign, meetings to select candidates were in some cases dispersed by the police as 'illegal assemblies,' and Sinn Fein funerals have also recently been declared 'illegal assemblies' by the authorities, while the whistling of certain airs has also caused arrests and people have even been taken up for 'seditious dancing' and illegal 'fishing in prohibited areas.' West Cork has been declared a 'prohibited area' and it is still necessary to obtain a passport to enter any part of it. Above six hundred men and women of all classes and creeds (countesses, university professors, shopkeepers, farmer, school-boy scouts, ballad-singers, musicians, cartoonists lawyers, poets, stone-cutters, shop-girls, editors, printers) have been arrested and held on various charges. Recently Australian and Canadian soldiers have been put under arrest by the military police for wearing Sinn Fein badges, the jails through the country are full to overflowing, and in Belfast recently complaints were made that the ordinary criminals were being overcrowded owing to the inrush of 'politicals.' At Christmas under the leadership of Austin Staek, M.P. for Kerry, the 'politicals' as a protest against the ill-treatment of one of their number, Seap Dolan, M.A., took possession of one entire wing of the prison and 'held up' the authorities for several days, until certain demands were conceded by the government. On January 5th, 'Prisoners' Sunday' was celebrated throughout Ireland, over 300 meetings being held for the purpose of calling attention to the continued detention in prison of Sinn Feiners and to demand their release. Many have now been held in custody since May last."

The above is taken from an article by Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington whose husband—Francis Sheehy Skeffington was shot in prison without trial after the Easter rebellion in 1916. The Sinn Fein Members of Parliament are refusing to go to Westminster to legislate and have started an independent parliament of their own in Ireland. We hope that Erin's Isle will soon drop their nationalism for the grand Internationalism of the Federated Socialist Republic.

AN APPEAL TO EVERY READER

Every effort is being made to get this paper into the hands of all workers. Those who have been fortunate enough to get every copy will agree with us that it is a real live wire and will, we feel sure, be desirous of its continuation and growth. We therefore appeal to all those who have received previous copies and have not already subscribed to same to immediately forward to the Business Manager, Box 1682, a donation which will ensure them the receipt of ensuing issues. This is important. Your help is needed.

The distorted news in the Capitalist Press simply confuses the mind of the reader. We are out to explain world happenings from