

"If you favor intervention, why do you not on this floor, by resolution or otherwise say so? If you believe in war with Russia, why not introduce an appropriate resolution and permit Congress to vote upon it in accordance with the Constitution? Upon what theory can you justify war without affirmative action by Congress? That we're in an actual state of war with Russia the recent ominous news from there demonstrates only too plainly."

Senator Johnson read to the Senate a letter from Colonel Raymond Robbins, formerly prominently identified with the American Red Cross work in Russia, challenging statements of fact regarding Russia, made by George Creel, of the Committee on Public Information in a current magazine. The Allied military missions, according to Colonel Robbins, were helping to train the Bolshevik Red Army last April.

Colonel Robbins' letter asserts that Edgar Sisson, one of the agents of the Creel committee, who was responsible for the Bolshevik expose made in the documents given out last year by George Creel, "fled from Petrograd" last March, shouting that the Germans would take Petrograd in collusion with the Bolsheviks within a few days, while American Red Cross agents remained in Petrograd and were still there in May, 1918, feeding starving children "under Bolshevik protection." Colonel Robbins' letter also asserts that "Mr. Bullard and all the American members of the Committee on Public Information in Russia" fled from Moscow on May 5 last year and went on board an English ice-breaker at Archangel, "dressed in English uniforms," where they remained several weeks, "while the American Red Cross was doing business as usual in Moscow, and English, French, and Japanese were under Bolshevik protection."

The document which Senator Johnson read and which he declared had not been published in this country, he said had been sent by the Soviet Government to the Allies as follows:

"In case (a) the All-Russian Congress of the Soviets will refuse to ratify the peace treaty with Germany, or (b) if the German Government, breaking the peace treaty, will renew the offensive in order to continue its robbers' raid, or (c) if the Soviet Government will be forced by the actions of Germany to renounce the peace treaty—before or after its ratification—and to renew hostilities—in all of these cases it is very important for the military and political plans of the Soviet power for replies to be given to the following questions:

"1. Can the Soviet Government rely on the support of the United States of America, Great Britain, and France in its struggle against Germany?"

"2. What kind of support could be furnished in the nearest future, and on what conditions—military equipment, transportation, supplies, living necessities?"

"3. What kind of support would be furnished particularly and especially by the United States?"

"Should Japan—in consequence of an open or tacit understanding with Germany or without such an understanding—attempt to seize Vladivostok and the Eastern Siberian Railway, which would threaten to cut off Russia from the Pacific Ocean and would greatly impede the concentration of Soviet troops toward the East about the Urals—in such case what steps would be taken by the other Allies, particularly and especially by the United States, to prevent a Japanese landing on our Far East and to insure uninterrupted communication with Russia through the Siberian route?"

"In the opinion of the Government of the United States to which extent—under the above mentioned circumstances—would aid be assured from Great Britain through Murmansk and Archangel? What steps could the Government of Great Britain undertake in order to assure this and thereby to undermine the foundation of the rumors of the hostile plans against Russia on the part of Great Britain in the nearest future?"

"All these questions are conditioned with the self-understood assumption that the internal and foreign policies of the Soviet Government will continue to be directed in accord with the principles of international Socialism and that the Soviet Government retains its complete independence of all non-Socialist Governments."

#### Received in Silence

Commenting on the offer, Senator Johnson made these significant statements:

"The men who were then in Russia familiar with the situation, including the representative of England and the representative of the United States, advised the Governments to respond favorably. I have copies of the telegrams which were sent at that time to different Governments. But the communication was received apparently in indignant and contemptuous silence."

"When last I addressed the Senate upon this subject I asked certain question of the Government," Senator Johnson continued. "No answer has been made, of course, to questions that I asked, because the implication in every question is known by the State Department to be true. Men are in this country today who can establish every single fact suggested, and if this body, or the Foreign Relations

Committee, really desires information, if they wish to tell the mothers and the fathers and the wives of the men who are freezing in Russia today just what the facts are, they have at their disposal the evidence, and it can be brought before them upon the briefest notice."

"There is a heavy reckoning some day for those who have been responsible for this wicked and this useless course in Russia. And the heaviest responsibility, the wrong which can never be atoned, is the shedding of American blood in Russia. It is to this phase-I desire to arouse the Congress, and to which, if I had the power and my voice would carry, I would arouse the people of the nation. It is of American boys and American blood I am thinking."

## Bolshevists In London

The London Times informs us of a conference convened by the "Hands of Russia" Committee held in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street. A large placard "Long Live Bolshevik Russia" was displayed. Some two hundred or three hundred delegates attended and were occupied mainly in discussing the possibility of engineering a general strike as the first definite step towards the revolution.

A mass meeting was held at night in the same hall and although we understand that it has seating capacity for some ten thousand people, yet the over-flow meetings had to be held downstairs.

The chairman was Mr. Arthur MacManus, of the Clyde workers. He said "that it was deeds that counted now and referred to the Socialism of Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg as taken from Red Russia."

G. A. K. Luhani, an Indian member of the Industrial Workers of the World, spoke, amid cheers, against conscription, and Desmond Ryan spoke as a representative of the Socialist Party of Ireland.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst asked how many of them had cheered Wilson's League of Nations at the Albert Hall? (A voice, "None.") She did not trust them very much. (Laughter.) She did not somehow believe that Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg were dead, but if they were it was better to die like them, for something worth while, than to die in bed or, like Keir Hardie, of a broken heart.

William Paul, S.L.P., said that at the conference that day all sections of the working-class revolutionary movement were united for the first time.

The resolution drawn up at the afternoon's conference was then put and carried.

The capitalist press does not favor us with the resolution. Doubtless it was too revolutionary to spread broadcast.

## Have The British Steel Makers Stolen March?

(By A. R. Kennedy, Editor Canadian Machinery, in Financial Post)

Apparently the British steel industry is in good shape to attend to a tremendous amount of business, and it begins to look as though the Britons were out securing their full share of business that is offering from any of the European countries. The list of imports for which licenses are required indicates that the country intends to have the entire situation entirely in hand, and are guarding against any business slipping away that can keep the wheels going at home.

One of the selling agents in this country for large American steel concerns says the impression is growing with the principals of his country that the British steel trade had "put one over" in being in shape for the afterwar business. His view is that the British, anticipating a quick finish of the war, had dropped the manufacture of war material and turned their plants over to be in shape for anything that might offer in the way of reconstruction or ordinary lines. In this way they were able to jump into after-war business while the industries of North America were still wondering what to do about completing their war orders.

In this connection it is worth recalling that at the first of the year a representative of THE FINANCIAL POST had an interview with a representative of one of the greatest English steel concerns. At that time he expressed the utmost confidence in the ability of British plants, as they stood then, to go ahead and compete with the world for all the steel business that was offering. It was only a few weeks after that that the first order that came into the world's market for 600,000 tons of steel rails was secured by a British concern at a figure better than was turned in by the United States interests.