

# Bolshevism at Work in Canada

Conditions in Canada which are furthering the advance of radicalism — The situation in Russia — Organizations in Canada subsidiary to Bolshevism

By HAROLD H. METCALFE.

Canadians are not inclined to consider seriously the possibility of the doctrines and practices of the Bolshevik government in Russia spreading and gaining any serious hold on the people of Canada. We are long accustomed to view with toleration and amusement the propaganda of radicals. There are many reasons why, in pre-war days, the radical speaker could be considered innocuous. Canadians generally were a staid people and a larger percentage of them held property than in other countries. The country was overwhelmingly agricultural in its pursuits, and the abundance of free or almost free land held up the hope of those few people who did not own property that they would some day. Now Canada is beginning to show signs of having a congestion in her largest cities. The cities are not large in comparison with those of Europe, but owing to the war and building costs, there are not homes in our cities to house the industrial workers who have collected there in response to the world demand for manufactured goods. Not only are a great number of the factory workers of our cities without property of their own, but they cannot be satisfactorily housed in the property of other people. There is also the unrest which was brought home by those who were away at the war. Change from the fevered production of war materials to other kinds of work helped the growth of industrial unrest. Industrial unrest is akin to political unrest. Observers say that the whole world is passing through a period of political unrest. There is scarcely a government anywhere that would dare to throw itself at the mercy of the electorate. All the governments of the world are not bad, but the tendency of the times, is to condemn with or without reason those who are in power. Canada, a close neighbor of the United States, where radicalism has long been developing as in a hot-bed, merely shares some of the general turmoil.

The Winnipeg strike was the first indication Canadians had that Bolsheviks in Canada were working upon the people with any degree of success. Since that time there has been no serious outbreak, but the actions of radicals throughout the country have been more closely observed. In the August issue of the Labour Gazette a pamphlet has been enclosed containing "Information Respecting the Russian Soviet System and its Propaganda in North America." Starting with a brief history of the Russian Revolution and an enumeration of the well known labour leaders of England who have visited Russia and condemned the system, the pamphlet includes an interesting document which was published by the London Times on June 3, 1920. It is the report of a member of the Council of the Peoples' Economy (Sounarhos), a Bolshevik body, on the present situation in Soviet Russia. This document lays plainly before the reader the terrifying effects of Bolshevism, the bondage of workmen greater than under any known capitalistic system, the starvation of the people and the destruction of useful property which has taken place.

In the closing paragraphs of this statement three things are particularly noteworthy—i.e. the war with Poland, which is even now in progress; the anticipated granting of concessions

to foreign countries, which was borne out by press reports in our own Canadian papers of July 17, indicating that the Russian Soviet Government is proposing to obtain necessary imports to restore transportation and industry within her own borders by granting large timber, iron, gold, oil, and oilshale concessions to outside countries in payment for goods received, and the propaganda methods adopted by which Koltchak and Denikin were first betrayed and then annihilated.

Briefly stated, the Soviet regime in Russia has resulted in the murder of thousands, the death of millions by war, plague, and hunger, and in the destruction of industry, of agricultural production, and financial credit. No one can accurately foretell the extent of the loss, suffering, sorrow, and death which must inevitably still occur before the final act in this terrible drama is ended.

From the indictment of Bolshevism in Russia the pamphlet turns to the more important enumeration of Bolshevik propaganda in the United States and Canada. The activities of Martens and his secretary Nuorteva (who will be remembered in connection with certain Canadian matters since and during the war), as shown during the investigation by the United States Senate Committee have some connection with affairs in Canada. It was found that Martens used extensively for propaganda purposes the columns of the New York Call. This is the paper which was said to have as its Winnipeg correspondent the Rev. Wm. Ivens. While the strikers were in possession of the telegraphic communications of Winnipeg, this paper published complete reports of what was going on. Since that time the question of whether Canada is affected by Bolshevism or not can be answered in the affirmative. The great variety of organizations used to spread propaganda make it difficult to follow the work being done. The One Big Union Movement and the Labour Church are among the most outstanding. The policy of the One Big Union is a union of all who toil by economic force to compel acceptance of their demands. The labour church is an easy way to initiate the unwary into the tenets of Bolshevism.

The conclusion of the pamphlet sums up the question of Bolshevism in Canada as follows:—

"It is to be remembered finally that the insidious propaganda campaign which has resulted so disastrously in Russia is still being carried on in North America and in other parts of the world. The popular motto is 'bore from within.' This process is going on in both the religious and industrial field. Employers who do not show due regard for the needs and rights of their workmen are substantially aiding the enemy that would destroy them. Many do not recognize that the legitimate labour movement is today playing a large part in preventing industrial and economic disaster, it is also the power that guarantees to the worker a reasonable return for his labour, a standard of living much above that which would prevail were his interest not protected, and is an anchor to steady him from the waves of radicalism which from time to time seek to wreck all that has been accomplished by way of constructive permanent improvement. Trade

Unions which retain within their ranks men who use their membership to 'bore from within,' and destroy instead of support, are assuming a serious responsibility and risk. There is unquestionably need of, and opportunity for, work by the Christian churches of every denomination.

"The Government of Canada has given serious and constant attention to this problem during the past year and a half. Every action taken to protect the people has been misrepresented by the Red propagandists. If further sympathy or support is given to this revolutionary movement, that would if it prevails devastate North America, as it has destroyed Russia, it will not be done innocently.

"It was not deemed advisable to make any official statement regarding this propaganda campaign until a thorough examination of it had been completed. The facts as they exist are outlined in this article. It is for every citizen to decide as to how his or her influence will be directed. If our industrial, social, political, and religious institutions, established through years of experience, should, in the opinion of our people, be replaced by a Constitution such as now exists in Russia, then their course is clear; if, on the other hand, they desire to perpetuate the British constitution, civil and religious liberty, love of God, home and native land, then their line of duty is also plain."

## The Growth of Montreal Harbor.

The harbor of the port of Montreal, upon which depends the city's growth, its commerce, its industrial development and its railway termini, as well as a large proportion of the export trade of the entire Dominion, cost the country something less than thirty million dollars. This port is the second in importance in North and South America and the seventh port in the world as to the value of foreign commerce passing through. It is becoming more and more recognized by the people of Canada that the transportation problem of the Dominion depends to a very large extent on the successful development of Montreal harbor.

### Berths for 100 Large Vessels.

At a total cost of \$29,500,000, the harbor, up to date, provides one hundred steamship berths from 350 to 750 feet in length with a depth of water of 20 to 35 feet; two large modern fireproof elevators with conveyor system to 15 steamship berths, at which 9 vessels can be loaded with grain simultaneously; 23 permanent fireproof sheds; 58 miles of harbor railway terminals; construction and repair plants; about 200 acres situated in the most valuable position, industrially, in Montreal, all reclaimed; and a total wharfage at the end of last year of 42,943 lin. feet or 8.133 miles. A 35-foot channel is now being dredged by the government between Montreal and the sea which will be available for ships in a few years.

The annual report of the Harbor Commissioners gives the total revenue for the year 1919 at \$1,990,594. The cost of operation and maintenance, etc., was \$2,114,556. There was received from the Federal Government on loan, \$670,000 on account of capital expenditure for improvements.

Regina, Sask.—The Fairfield Chemical Company have taken over the Miner Rubber Company's plant and expect to commence operations about September 1st.

Edmonton, Alta.—Dominion Experimental Station at Beaver Lodge has just completed experiment with rye grass which threshed out at rate of three hundred and three pounds of seed to acre, and which graded number one at Calgary seed laboratory. This represents return of over ninety dollars per acre and farm superintendent states that owing to harvesting and threshing conditions, not more than half of the seed was recovered.