

ence meets it will be really only to record decisions, and that until the behind-the-scenes decisions are ready the conference will mark time. "Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at." What a mockery the phrase sounds here!

"Outwardly things are not going well" which statement is explained by a number of details, one of the chief being the dissatisfaction of the Press Correspondents over the scarcity of information re plan of League of Nations. In fact "many of them believe that there is no such plan."

The writer informs us that "Now it can be stated authoritatively that all danger of American as well as British intervention in Russia is past." This accords with the statement in the Local Press where Lloyd George is reported as saying that no sane person would think of intervention.

The correspondent gives us this further information: "The recent sensational statement of the Swedish correspondent of the London 'Times,' that the Lenine army was no longer a Bolshevik Army but a Russian one, well armed and well officered, and commanded by one of the ablest officers the old army produced, has put statesmen on notice that the task of unseating the Bolsheviks is one to call for blood-shed on a large scale and for an expenditure of treasure which the United States alone can supply. We cannot expect to hear of the immediate withdrawal of our troops from Archangel because it is inaccessible now on account of the ice. But the Vladivostok troops may be home-ward bound sooner than people at home expect."

Another squabble is arising out of Poland, Pilsudski claiming that his Government is truly representative of the wish of the people. The Polish national committee formed in Paris, headed by Roman Dmowski is backed by France as out-lined in our last issue and supposed to be in control, and the Bolsheviks still gaining ground. What the result will be we cannot fortell but it is evidently causing the Peace Conference some worry. Also the Lithuanian Committee at present in Paris are asking that "some twenty thousand Lithuanians in Pershing's army be released to them and that plenty of arms and ammunition be given to them as well." All this time the Bolshevik Army is "sweeping thru the Lithuanian country at a rate that makes it obvious that it will have been over-run long before adequate military aid can arrive there."

Correspondence dated January 31st by same writer—Oswald Garrison Villard—states Wilson himself is reported to have shown his teeth at Wednesday's conference and to have let it appear that there are times when he will fight. Lloyd George is not so happy as he was and is complaining that the conference is slow."

Open diplomacy is so open in Paris that we read: "Evidently there is no intention of using the American Press to educate people in the details of the scheme before it is sprung on the world" but perhaps the next item is of most interest to the workers "The growing unrest in various nations is reflected in Lloyd George's own feeling of impatience." Mentioning the conditions in England he says: "While greatly pleased that the Peace conference is taking up international labor problems it is feared that any action will have too much Governmental flavor especially since George Nicoll Barnes and Mr. Gompers will have so much to do with it."

We do not hesitate to endorse that, as we have known these two "gentlemen" and watched their actions in the past, and are glad to learn from all sources that the laboring men of England have ditched their "leaders" and are acting independent of them—leaders whose function it has been to fool the workers. Further we are told that it is reported that Wilson has ordered Gompers to attend the Berne conference "where he is not wanted." We can only hope that he will get a worse reception than he did in England last year, where his Gompersism got a severe blow from the laboring classes.

In summing up the two epistles, one is inclined to the conclusion that the Peace Conference is more of a grand squabble amongst the noted and brilliant (?) diplomats, accompanied by a continuous and dissatisfied growl from the press correspondents.

However we must "wait and see", and in the meantime we hear that the workers in Belfast are forming "industrial Soviets"; that Glasgow workers are treading along the same path and that in Seattle and Portland they have formed organizations of workmen and soldiers called "The Council of Workers and Soldiers." It seems as though the workers were at last waking up and taking upon themselves some of the problems which affect them most. They are seeing the finger-post bearing the inscription: "Soldiers, Sailors and Workers unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to gain."

College Students As Tools

Mr. Baillie Scott, as reported in "London Times": "It is much to be feared that our desire to commemorate our victory over Prussia will lead us to express those very qualities which we set ourselves to overcome in her."

This was amply illustrated at the Alberta College on Monday, February 10th, when a member of the Socialist Party of Canada and also a student at that institution was subjected to very drastic treatment by some forty members of the Alberta College, aided by about fifty from the University.

Undoubtedly they fully realized that a Socialist is a force to be reckoned with, as otherwise we cannot explain why nearly one hundred would pounce upon a solitary individual, who looks anything but Herculean.

After a series of kicks and blows, administered while the Comrade had his hands fastened behind his back with handcuffs, they concluded their miserable attack by plunging him into a bath of ice cold water. He was then allowed, by these ruffians of civilization, to leave for his home, having to walk several blocks, drenched to the skin.

We know full well that students are irresponsible, and we further know that their actions were stimulated from outside influences. Our opponents are plainly playing a losing hand when they have to use children to bolster up their cause.

The effect of the treatment upon the comrade physically was sufficiently to keep him confined to his bed for three days, but the mental effect has but stamped more indelibly upon his mind the aims and objects of the revolutionary Socialists which "lead the world at least to freedom."

Extract From "The Nation"

"In the good times coming when industry shall be considered for use and not for profit, there is an agreeable prospect of abundant leisure. When each of us shall have done his three or four hour daily stint in productive industry, he will have some twenty hours left on his hands that he must get through with in one way or another. It has always been the assumption of the Social prophets and chiliasts that he would devote a considerable part of these to expression of the creative instinct. Emancipated from long task-work, he would have ample energy to devote to painting or sculpture, if he were of an artistic turn, or of music, literary composition, or whatever his gift or fancy indicated; and since he would be employing himself in this pleasant way merely as an avocation, without money and without price upon his work, his creative impulses would be free from commercial control, and their expression, therefore would be much more sincere, spontaneous and abundant than now, while its survival, too, would be determined by merit alone."

Senator Johnson And The Russian Intervention

In the New York Times almost two columns on the front page were given to Senator Johnson's speech in the Senate. He characterized the American government's attitude towards Russia as "weak, vacillating, stupid and ignorant."

"Our dealings with Russia," declared Senator Johnson, "and the dealings of our Allies with Russia have been not only an exhibition of the crassest stupidity, but have contributed to the awful tragedy there."

"If you favor armed intervention," he said, "it is obvious that the scale upon which it has been undertaken is too small to accomplish lasting results. It has become painfully clear in the last few days that by the present intervention we merely hazard the lives of our men. It is equally clear that the people of England, and our own people, will not tolerate intervention on a larger scale. Even if you favor intervention, you should for the protection of the lives of our soldiers insist that those there—few in number and their position courting disaster—be immediately withdrawn."