

# THE INTERNATIONAL

## JEAN LONGUET ON CONDITIONS IN FRANCE.

(By Tom Quelch.)

Our friend and comrade Jean Longuet, grandson of Karl Marx, Socialist member of the Chamber of Deputies for a Paris constituency, and leader of the French anti-war Socialists who are now a majority of the French Socialist Party, being in London to take part in the Inter-Allied Socialist and Labor Conference, I seized the occasion to have a talk with him concerning his views in regard to the general situation, conditions in France, the Stockholm Conference, and matters of interest to the movement.

Longuet began by stating that the people of France wanted peace. They were tired of the war.

I asked him if it were true that the people living in the war zone were particularly jingoistic. He replied that the nearer the people were to the front the more they were in favor of peace. As an illustration, he instanced the town of Belfort, which is subject to frequent bombardment by the German army. "Our comrade Froissart," he said, "who is organizer of the Party, and a strong pacifist schoolmaster, has the unanimous support of the Belfort comrades. He is editor of the Socialist organ 'Germinal'—named after Zola's great novel—which appears twice a week and is only sold in Belfort and district. 'Germinal' has a circulation of over six thousand copies. It is an out-and-out pacifist paper—as far as the Censor will permit. I expect Froissart will be returned at the next election as deputy for Belfort. The Oise Socialist Federation—which is in the war zone—is entirely with the anti-war section of the party, as is also the Socialist Federation of the Marne."

### Attitude of the French Soldiers.

Asked as to the attitude of the French soldiers towards the war, Longuet replied: "When they are told that English soldiers break up peace meetings they cannot understand it at all. They wonder if those soldiers have dropped from the moon. They are convinced that they could not have been to the front. The overwhelming majority of the French soldiers are with us in our struggle for peace. I have received thousands of letters from the front expressing pleasure at my attitude, and asking me to be more energetic in my efforts to bring about an end to the war. Many of those letters have come from men who belong to my own constituency. I have not received a single letter of protest. There is much grave unrest in the French army. I have heard also from reliable sources that similar unrest exists in the German army. Men from the front have told me of demonstrations when the German soldiers have shouted: 'Long live Liebknecht and down with the war.'"

### The Question of Alsace-Lorraine.

"What," I asked, "is the feeling of the French people with regard to the proposed annexation of Alsace-Lorraine?"

"There is," he answered, "no decided feeling about Alsace-Lorraine. It is historically a Socialist question. Karl Marx bitterly protested on behalf of the old international against the annexation by Germany, but also did Bebel and Liebknecht. We consider that the people should determine their own destiny. The Socialist Party as a whole is agreed to a plebiscite to settle the question. The only possible reconciliation of France and Germany is through Alsace-Lorraine, and that must be brought about by a free vote of the inhabitants of those provinces."

### After-War Problems in France.

In reply to a query as to whether

any steps had been taken in France to deal with after-war problems, our comrade Longuet said that very little had been done. "This will be," he concluded, "a great cause for possible revolutionary trouble."

### The International.

"Do you think it will be necessary to constitute a new International?" I asked. "I do not see the need of it," he replied. "There is but one Socialist movement. In nearly every country it was represented by a united Socialist Party. Necessarily there will be an elimination of men who are no longer Socialists. I do not think it will be necessary even to expel even the whole of the German Socialist majority."

### Stockholm.

Longuet expressed high hopes from Stockholm. "It will," he said, "strengthen the peace movement everywhere, particularly the German Socialist minority. It would pave the way to peace."

### The Coming Revolution.

Referring to recent troubles in Italy, Longuet made a striking comparison of Italy with Russia, and expressed the opinion that undoubtedly the whole of Europe would soon witness a tremendous revolutionary uprising.—The Call, Britain.

### WHO MADE THE WAR?

A Canadian Officer in the London Regiment, writing to Lieut.-Col. J. Obed Smith, says:

"I have, to begin with, the duties of Lewis Gun Officer and Work Officer to do at present, and when up the line I did Intelligence as well, therefore I am fully employed. The latter job gave me more to think about in connection with the war than anything I have yet undertaken. I had some nasty work, and I would like nothing better than to take the devils who are responsible for this hellish business and place them on the battlefield at night, alone with the dead; let them see what men are born for; let them see their friends with crushed heads and limbless bodies; make them lie in shell holes, with half a body protruding in an upright position; let them gaze upon a body on a stretcher, with the bearers dead alongside; and if these sights do not make them repent them of their crimes then, well might we all cry: 'Who made the War?'—From Canada.

### BRAVE WORDS FROM GERMANY.

In Die Friedens-Warte, October, 1917, that true and constant advocate of peace principles, the friend and disciple of Bertha von Suttner, Dr. A. H. Fried, tells of a change that has come about in the governmental circles of the Central Powers with regard to pacifist ideas. Speaking of "the Utopians of eternal war and of ever-increasing armaments" and of the way they jeered at pacifists during the first decade of the 20th century, he says: "Their laughter has ceased. Even in Germany, even in high places, concessions are made to pacifism." Rulers begin to talk the language pacifists have long used. And the rest of his article is full of brave words, for he argues that "concessions" are not enough. Pacifism cannot be sundered from democracy. Pacifism is nothing more than the application of democratic principles to foreign policy. If the German Government is democratized, Germany will become an important and "trustworthy" member of a community of nations which will exclude the making of war. If it does not become democratic she will remain a state apart in the midst of international anarchy. Brave words in these days! Even braver words were spoken

by Professor F. W. Foerster, of Munich, in an address to the "Austrian Political Society" at Vienna, July 17, 1917, on "The Policy of Force and the Policy of Agreement." He shows how the State that pursues limited, selfish ends does as much harm to the world generally as the selfish, self-centred individual does to those around him. "All self-seeking, even national self-seeking, produces stupidity." "The best security for your own rights is a concern for the rights and interests of others." (Loud applause.)—C.E.P., in 'New Crusader.

### CONFIRMS GERMAN MUTINY

#### 25,000 Soldiers Desert and Form a Camp Near Kovno.

Petrograd, Jan. 11.—Confirmation of the report that an armed camp of 25,000 German soldiers have mutinied against being shifted to the western front, and are holding the forest near Kovno and are threatening an attack upon the other German troops from the rear if they resume the offensive against Russia, has been borne out by four German soldiers who recently deserted and who offered to enlist in the new international army now being organized to fight for Socialist principles under the direction of the bureau headed by Boris Reinstein, internationalist delegate of the Socialist Labor Party of America.

Lieut. William Mueller, 347th Infantry, signed this statement given to Reinstein.

"For some time the men under 35 years old have been taken from divisions on the eastern front to go to the western front, leaving only the older men in the divisions. Many soldiers mutinied and were forced into trains, but deserted in masses in the forest and soon formed a great army of outlaws with rifles, machine guns and even cannon. Already these men are strong, they have defeated the troops led against them. In one battle 250 loyal Kaiser troops were killed.

Efforts to cut them off from food and ammunition failed, because they descended on villages in force and cut up the troops sent to stop them. They also stopped trains, taking provisions and arms and winning recruits. They have sent word to the front that they will attack the German troops in the rear if the present peace negotiations failed and a new attack is made on Russia.

"The camp has been in existence several weeks. The Government is unable to bring troops to attack, as the mutineers capture the approaching trains."

A young gentleman purchased a new shirt in a certain shop, and on arriving home, fitted it on, but was not satisfied with it. The next day he took it back to the counter where he had purchased it, but this time a young lady was in charge of the department. "Excuse me miss," he said, "I bought this shirt here; can I change it at this counter?" "Oh! dear me, no!" said the embarrassed girl. "You'd better go to a private room."

Hoist the flag on your manure heap if you don't want to be considered unpatriotic.

## Rheumatism

### A Home Cure Given by One Who Had It

In the spring of 1888 I was attacked by Muscular and Inflammatory Rheumatism. I suffered as only those who have it know, for over three years. I tried remedy after remedy, and doctor after doctor, but such relief as I received was only temporary. Finally, I found a remedy that cured me completely, and it has never returned. I have given it to a number who were terribly afflicted and even bedridden with rheumatism, and it effected a cure in every case.

I want every sufferer from any form of rheumatic trouble to try this marvelous healing power. Don't send a cent; simply mail your name and address and I will send it free to try. After you have used it and it has proven itself to be that long-looked-for means of curing your Rheumatism, you may send the price of it, one dollar, but understand I do not want your money unless you are perfectly satisfied to send it. Isn't that fair? Why suffer any longer when positive relief is thus offered you free? Don't delay Write today.

Mark H. Jackson, No. 616D Gurney Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y.  
Mr. Jackson is responsible. Above statement true—Pub.

### AN APPEAL TO WOMEN.

My Sister Women:

I have appealed to you so often; I thank you for the response; I am appealing over again.

The election has passed. The forces of re-action have won a seeming triumph. So they did when Jesus of Nazareth was murdered as a felon by the executioner's methods of those days. So they did in Spain when Ferer was shot at dawn; and in America when John Brown died for the slaves.

It is only a seeming triumph for the scaffold. I wait the future, and though evil is indeed upon the throne, the throne itself will totter and fall.

I want to tell you something you may not know. It is that the women of Austria and Germany have sent a message of love and sympathy to the women of the enemy, and are striving to keep alive the mother-love that is the hope of the stricken world.

I have just received a song book from my dear mother. She has marked the songs they sang outside the prison where my brother is still confined. "The people's flag is deepest red, it shrouded off our martyred dead. And ere their limbs grew stiff and cold their hearts' blood dyed its every fold.

They say the singing is to be stopped. It is winning too much sympathy for the brave souls who are suffering for freedom.

The authorities are starving them now. The bread ration has been so cut down that the poor men cannot have sufficient even of that terrible food to sustain body and soul. Yet the soul within them cannot starve. Over that the tyrants have no power. It has ever been so.

Remember Mr. Bainbridge and his heroism!

Women of the New Ideal, I beg you to be faithful. Please write to me in larger numbers, that we may strengthen and sustain each other.

Another of the marked hymns has a verse with which I will close this letter:

They are slaves who fear to speak  
For the fallen and the weak.  
They are slaves who will not choose  
Hatred, scoffing and abuse,  
Rather than in silence shrink  
From the truth they needs must think.  
They are slaves who dare not be  
In the right with two or three.

With kindest loving greetings to our members,

(Mrs.) Gertrude Richardson,  
Swan River, Man.

### Organizer's Maintenance Fund

The Workers of Canada await the message of emancipation. Send along your dimes and nickels. Drops of water make the ocean; let us have a tidal wave for Socialism.

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