

# THE SOVIET

Devoted to the Interests of the Working Class

VOL. 1 NO. 7

EDMONTON, ALTA.; APRIL 7

BUSINESS MANAGER, BOX 1682

## Bring The Boys Home From Russia

(London Herald)

We are face to face with the possibility of the blackest crime in history.

No, friends, it is nothing to do with the "Huns" this time. This time the crime is being planned by British capitalists, urged by British newspaper-proprietors, and contemplated by the British Government. **And you must stop it.**

The British Government cannot make up its mind. The Big Money Interest is trying to make up the Government's mind for it. But, men and women of the rank-and-file, that is not a job for the Big Money Interest—that is your job! It is not the company promoters who will perish if the diabolical plot succeeds: it is your sons and brothers.

Nothing less than the lives of your sons and brothers is at stake. Why? Because British capitalists have money invested in Russian securities, and are afraid that, unless British armies march into Russia and overthrow the Socialist Republic there, their money will be lost. That is the issue—their dirty money against the precious lives of your own people.

Have you wondered why demobilization is so slow? Perhaps you think it is merely "red tape." It is not. It is the Red Flag—in Russia. Our rulers will not let the Army go because they are coquetting with the idea of using it against Russia "on the grand scale." One European war is not enough for them—they have not had to fight it. They are prepared to enter another period of wholesale slaughter. Why? We say again it is for dividends. But so little do they consider the lives of our soldiers that they will not even pause to discuss whether those dividends cannot be saved without fresh war. It is said that the Russian Soviet Government has offered to negotiate with the Allies on this point. But negotiation is just what our masters do not want. They do not want to recognize the Soviets. They are trembling for more than their Russian dividends: they are trembling for the security of the dividend-hunting system all the world over. They shake with panic before the oncoming of the Socialist idea: and panic breeds cruelty and madness.

Consider for one moment the excuses that are urged by the interventionists. There are the old stories of "German gold." But since the Armistice these stories have had to be so altered that their own father—the Father of Lies himself—would scarcely know them. The legend of Lenin as the Kaiser's agent has gone by the board. But there is still the atrocity story. Well, doubtless, there are atrocities in Russia under the present regime; let it be admitted. The best available evidence seems to indicate that where the Bolshevik power is most the atrocities are the least. There is a fringe of lawlessness. There are outbursts of terrorism. Even so. But who are we British to talk of intervention because of atrocities?—we who refused to intervene on behalf of the tortured Armenians, when our base political game required us to bolster up the tyranny of the Turk?—we, who refused to intervene on behalf of the Jews, or the Poles, or the Persians, when our base political game required us to bolster up the tyranny of the Tsardom?—we, who gasped in eager and obsequious friendship the hand of Russian Bureaucracy, red from a myriad of murders—murders by pogrom and murders by the slow torture of imprisonment, murders by the noose and murders by the knout?

### RUSSIA TO BRITAIN

A copy of a leaflet, printed in English, dropped over the British Lines at Verst 461, Vologda Front, by Bolshevik aeroplane. Like leaflets are also printed in French, Italian, Russian, and even Japanese.

In order to obtain the consent of the workers of Britain to the unwarranted act of aggression against us, your Government gives the following as their reason for landing troops in our country:—

1. That they have come to stamp out anarchy and restore order. It is not true. Your Government and the French Government are themselves responsible for what disorder there is in Russia. Ever since the Revolution the agents of the French and British Gov-

ernments have been conspiring with the counter-revolutionaries, giving them moral encouragement and financial assistance for the purpose of undermining the power of our Workmen's Government and to bring about its downfall. Your Government and the French Government are co-operating with the Czecho-Slovaks, who have blocked the access to our food supplies. The serious food shortage in our country is aggravating the disorganization. If there is disorder your Government's are responsible for it. Remember when a capitalist Government enters a country where there has been a revolution for the purpose of restoring "order," it always means that they intend to crush the Revolution. That is what the German Government did in Poland, in the Ukraine, in the Baltic Provinces, and in Finland. That is what your Government wants to do in Russia. They do not want to restore order. They want to restore the Tzar.

2. That they have come to help the Russian people.

In the first place is it helping to bring war amongst a people already exhausted by war? We do not want war. We want peace. We want to be left alone to consolidate the gains of our Revolution, to organize our social and economic life in such a manner to secure to workers the products of their labor. Your Government is not helping the workers the products of their labor. Your Government is not helping to do this. It has sent you here to prevent our doing it. Your Government is co-operating with the Czecho-Slovaks, who are suppressing the workers wherever they go. In Samara the workers obtained an eight-hour day. It has been abolished. All working-class organizations, Trade Unions, and such like are suppressed. Whenever the Czecho-Slovaks go they suppress our Workmen's Councils, and establish in their stead an oligarchy of speculators, capitalists, and ex-Tzar officers. Your Government will use you to do the same in North and Central Russia. If your Government wanted to help the Russian people it would recognize the Soviet Government of the Workers and Peasants and assist us to reorganize our railways and industries. We, in fact, invited your Government to enter into business relations with us that would have been to our mutual advantage. But your Government made no reply. No—your Government does not want to help the Russian people. It is helping to fasten the yoke of capitalism and Tzarism on them again.

3. That the Allied invasion of Russia is welcomed by the Russian People.

It is not true. Who is welcoming your landing? A few starving peasants, whom your Government bribed with promises of food. These poor people are not glad to see you. They are only eager for the food they hope you will bring. Who else is welcoming you? The ex-Landlords of Russia, who are expecting you to restore to them the land, forests, and mines which are now the property of the whole Russian people. The Capitalists, who want you to overthrow our Workmen's Governments and compel us to become their wage slaves again. The Technovniks, the ex-officials of the Tzarist Government, who want you to restore to them their soft jobs, to resume their old game of bribery and corruption for which Russia in the past was notorious. Yes, this crowd, with their hangers-on, are very pleased to see you here. They will flatter you and make a fuss of you; all the while they have a supreme contempt for you, for you are only working men whom they are using as their tools. The Russian commander at your head, General Gurko, is a reactionary of the worst description. He was arrested by Kerensky for his monarchist propaganda. The agents of your Government helped him to escape. His only object in joining you is to use you to restore the Tzar.

Comrades! Do not put your trust in this reactionary gang. Do not permit yourselves to be used as the tools of the enemies of liberty. Never let the shameful thing be said that the English workers permitted themselves to be used to crush the Russian Revolution.

Fellow workers! Be loyal to your class and refuse to do the dirty work of your masters.

(Signed) Lenin, Pres. of the Council of Peoples' Commissary

(Signed) Tchitcherine, Peoples' Commissary Foreign Affairs.