

BOLSHY ADVOCATES COMMIT CRIME AGAINST DEMOCRACY AND OUTRAGE ON HUMANITY

British Chaplain Sees Horror of Bolshevism—Reign of Torture at Odessa—The Story of an English Clergyman.

By the Rev. R. Courrier-Foster, Late British Chaplain at Odessa and the Russian Ports of the Black-Sea.

Do English people really imagine that the published accounts of the appalling atrocities and brutal tyranny of the Bolshevik rule in Russia are an exaggeration? Before God I wish I could believe they are not true to the actual facts. Could I but find them untrue, I would speak for the Bolsheviks from end to end of England, for I have always done what lay in my power to alleviate the conditions of life of the manual workers and to raise the standard of living and the opportunities for personal development under which they live.

Unhappily, I have spent nearly a year in soviet Russia, and was in the black country over seven years before that. I have read and re-read the letter from a British officer to his wife respecting the unspeakable horror of the brutalities practised by the Bolsheviks on their martyred victims and can find nothing from my own experience telling me it is probably inaccurate.

Odessa an Inferno.

While I was still British chaplain of Odessa, the city was deluged with blood. When the Bolshevik elements, grating on to their main support, the 4,000 criminals released from the city jails, attempted to seize the town, people of education, regardless of social position, offered what armed resistance was in their power. Workmen, shop assistants, soldiers, professional men, and a handful of officers fought for freedom and liberty through the streets of the great port for three days and nights against the bloody despotism of the Bolsheviks. Trams were overturned to make barricades, trenches dug in the streets, machine-guns placed in the upper windows of houses to mow the thoroughfares

Burning Mount bringing in his arms the Tables of the Ten Commandments to humanity and being stoned to death by a mob of workmen and soldiers.

The following Sunday afternoon I was passing through the gardens, when I saw a group of Bolshevik soldiers insulting an ikon of the thorn-crowned face of Christ. The owner of the ikon was putting in the pictured face, while the others were standing round watching with loud guffaws of laughter. Presently they tore the only picture into fragments, danced on it, and trampled and stamped the pieces into the mud.

By this time the devastating corruption of the holy revolution had so spread that I saw open acts of indecency being committed in broad daylight in the parks and public squares. The Bolsheviks were not only incapable of the ghastly conditions to which Bolshevism has reduced Russia, but those of us who have lived in the abominable Bolshevik system bearing fruit, know the absolute truth of these things.

The men who are so liberally duping and deceiving our trade unions and manual workers as to the true conditions of practical Bolshevism are not only committing a crime against democracy, but an outrage on humanity.

British I. L. P. and the Third International

British newspapers containing detailed accounts of the Independent Labor Party's convention at Glasgow are to hand, and give the party's attitude towards the Third or Moscow International. Quoting from the Daily Herald: "The I.L.P. conference at Glasgow has definitely decided to withdraw from the Second International, and to work towards the formation of an 'inclusive' international which would at the same time make clear the Socialist objective. It was expressly stated by the chairman (Philip Snowden) that the amendment adopted meant that Russia would be invited, in common with other nations, to co-operate in this great endeavor."

The above is the gist of the two resolutions on the international. The card vote to withdraw from the Second International was 211 to 144. The vote against affiliation to the Third International was 472 against 296.

Further Inquiry Necessary.

Speaking on the question of the Third, or Moscow International, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald is reported as follows by the London Times: "Before a decision was reached, further inquiry was needed. Lenin, Trotsky, and the others, he said, had had to face, not a British situation, but a Russian situation, and if they had had an English ear and a revolution they had had to tackle suddenly the government of the country under unconsidered conditions. The revolution round them and a counter-revolution gathering against them—then they might go to Moscow for tips as to how to do it. That was not their position, and people who began by assuming that it was very simply playing at nursery politics. (Cheers.)"

On the other hand, they had a Second International which pleased nobody. (Cheers.) But the Second International itself knew its weakness. It knew perfectly well that with its present composition and its present membership it could not exist as an international. That was the position. What were they going to do? They could do what, to his mind, was mere heroics. They could talk about revolution and imagine that they were in the middle of it.

Revolution Not Wanted.

"There is not a single man or woman here that wants revolution. (Cheers and Question). You know perfectly well that when you talk about revolution in England today you are merely playing with words. When I talk about a revolution I mean the sort of thing that has gone on in Russia; the sort of thing that is contemplated in the manifestoes that have been issued calling the Moscow conference, where you are told that you must arm the proletariat and disarm the bourgeoisie in order that, by the exercise of force, you may create a new heaven and a new earth. (Cheers and disorder.)"

The resolution inviting the Soviet party to call a conference of inquiry, he continued, pointed out a way to peace and a way to finding a real all-inclusive international in a very short time. He ventured to say that no body of men and women representing the mind of the Independent Labor Party could declare that the time had come to arm the proletariat in order to create a revolution in this country.

Commenting on the decision of the convention, the Manchester Guardian says:

Farewell to Second.

"The party, in spite of the opposition of such trusted leaders as Mr. Philip Snowden and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, has decided to cut itself off from the Second International, to which the Labor party still belongs, and consider more minutely the possibility of joining some new international which shall include the Russian Bolsheviks and their sympathizers. The Soviet idea might be infinitely varied, but it would be based on the armed power of a section of the community and not upon any intelligible principle of democracy. That seems to be the distinction between the old and the proposed new international. But although one may regret the readiness to adopt new and extreme ideas, often, one can only say because they are new and extreme they need not be taken too seriously. An armed revolution of the workers of this country is not a serious possibility of the future simply because it has got the sanction of a section of the I.L.P. There will be just as much propaganda work left for the I.L.P. to do as ever there was, unless they are willing to take the risk of the working class being left in a state of anarchy against themselves."

Herald Wants Third.

The Daily Herald reiterates the belief that the "Third International" stands for a violent or sanguinary revolution, and comments on the decision of the convention, as follows: "All that can be urged against the decision is the slowness of its approach to the inevitable and the ignorance which it betokens of Moscow's point of view. So long as Philip Snowden and those who think with him can remain ignorant of the fact that joining the Third International does not necessarily involve either the surrendering of connections with the national Labor party or a bloody revolution, the Independent Labor party must remain in its ambiguous position."

The idea that the Third International is identified with violent revolution was firm in the minds of some of the delegates at the convention, and it did not find favor with any of the speakers reported. George Benson, of Bedford, stated he was in favor of linking up with the Left Wing Socialists in the world, provided that British Socialists were also

HUMAN SIDE OF LABOR NOW BEING RECOGNIZED IN ONT. LEGISLATURE

Secretary Joseph Marks, of Labor Educational Association, Tells St. Thomas Labor Men that General Situation Never Looked More Hopeful.

The laboring men of the world were never wider awake and never had a greater opportunity of winning their cause if they remain together and avoid internal differences, stated Joseph Marks, of Toronto, who visited St. Thomas Friday evening and conferred with the heads of several of the local labor unions in the matter of instituting a campaign there in the interests of the Labor Educational Association, of which Mr. Marks is honorary secretary. The meeting was advertised to take place in the council chambers, but owing to the inability of Mrs. W. L. Singer, of Toronto, to attend on account of illness, the gathering adjourned to the labor temple, taking the form of a round-table discussion.

Arrangements were made for delegates from several of the organizations of the city to attend the convention on May 24 in Brantford. Mr. Marks in his short address touched on the political situation

and the general outlook never looked more hopeful, he said; the golden age was ahead, not past. The last five years had seen remarkable progress made and he commended the new provincial Government, stating that Labor was getting a square deal; in fact more than many of them had expected. The human side was being recognized in the Legislature more than it had ever been before, as evidenced in the legislation enacted this session. The amendments to the workmen's compensation act, women's pensions and several other new measures, directly affecting labor, were praised by Mr. Marks. He urged co-operation with the farmers and an effort to create a better mutual understanding. Farmers were not the profiteers, as accused. In the majority of cases it was the produce men who canvassed the rural districts and bought up the marketable goods, setting their own prices.

Ex-Ald. John Lane was chairman of the meeting.

lowed to work out their own salvation in their own way. The Manchester Guardian goes on to report them as follows:

I.L.P. Invited to Moscow.

"He pointed out that an invitation had not been sent to the I.L.P. to attend Moscow because it was not a physical force party, and it was said that a proletariat which rejected force was like a knife without a handle or blade. (Hear, hear.) It was laid down in the invitation that one of the principles of the Third International was the arming of the whole of the working class. Were they in favor, Mr. Benson asked, of putting a rifle into the hands of every Liberal and Tory working man and of distributing bombs to the Labor party. (Loud laughter.) Was the social revolution going to be brought about by putting rifles into the hands of pot-house habitués who read 'John Bull'?"

"The Third International laid it down that they must do so. They were in danger of becoming mere mouthers of parrot-phrases which they did not believe in, and which, however true they might be in their

country of origin, were not applicable to Britain. A rifle would not bring a man from the wrong side of the ballot-box to the right side of a barricade. (Cheers.)"

The decision of the I.L.P. on the International is typical of the uncertainty of British labor towards the entire project. The I.L.P. has strongly shelved it. Snowden and MacDonald are openly opposing it, being at one with Henderson and the British Labor party. A noticeable feature of all the discussions has been the insistence on the national identity of British labor. It must not be swallowed up in a continental movement, "national sections must be allowed to adapt their policies to the differing political and industrial conditions in their own countries." The revival of the national instinct contains the real significance of the controversy in Great Britain on the Third International.

The 36 million inhabitants of the United States, having been converted, five missionaries left New York for West Africa yesterday.—A. N. Y. Paper.

Social Insurance

Increase in Statutory Benefits Under British Laws.

Increases in cost of living are notably burdensome in the case of persons whose income is fixed by law, as in the case of public employees, and more especially of persons whose income is derived from pensions or other fixed awards.

To meet the needs of persons in one of these latter classes, i.e., injured workmen, the British compensation law was amended in 1917 by adding 25 per cent. to current and accruing awards payable during total incapacity on the basis of the original act. This addition was to be effective during the period of the war and for six months thereafter. On December 30, 1919, royal assent was given to a "war addition" amendment, 1919, changing the 25 per cent. increase to one of 75 per cent. effective January 1, 1920. This is an amendment to the Workmen's Compensation (War Addition) Act, 1917, but contains no limitation as to term.

Another liberalizing enactment is one affecting the Old-Age Pension Act, 1908, 1911. Perhaps the first change to attract attention is the increase of the maximum pension allowance from \$8.20 per week to 16s. Pensions vary in accordance with the amount of income derived from other sources, being so graduated that the maximum receipts from property owned or other resources, combined with the pension allowance, shall give a weekly support amounting to 29s. This is the result of the 1919 amendment, and contrasts with the maximum of 13s. provided for by the law of 1908.

The original act allowed no benefits where the claimant had yearly means in excess of £31 10s., but the amendment advanced this sum to £49 17s. 6d. This enlargement, of course brings an additional number of persons within the purview of the act, estimated to be 23,999.

A third change of importance is one striking out the provision that the receipt of poor relief would bar the recipient from pensions. It was held that this was an artificial disqualification, having an unwarranted social slight on the recipient of poor relief. It also led to inadequate standards of living; while now if the pensioner is found in need of outdoor relief, it is recon-



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