"The Bolsheviki" --- As Seen By Raymond Robins

William Hard Tells the Story, in the "Metropolitan."

Legal Advice, who were at first forbidden even to see the prisoners, the Department of Labor was finally forced to open its files, and as a result many of the deportees were discharged immediately, and others were released on bail, pending further hearings.

But before this could be done, several men were secretly deported, among them two Italians, Pietro Marruccho-who was accused of having in his possession a copy of the paper Cronacca Sovversiva-and another, Angele Varrichio. Marrucho died-or was killed-on his way to Italy; Varrichio was rushed to Ellis Island, a letter he sent was held up, and his presence on the Island was denied by officials. Six Scandinavian I. W. W.'s arrested in the West, were rushed to New York, denied the right to see a lawyer engaged for them, and shipped to Sweden. An Irishman named John Meehan, arrested for being a member of the I. W. W., was held for nineteen months and then shipped to England, in the midst of winter, in rags and without a hat, his clothing having worn out in jail. He had been in America twenty-five years. Frank Lopez, a Spaniard, who had been in the country seventeen years, who was married and owned a home in Dedham, Mass., where he was a regular member of the A. F. of L. was ordered deported because he called himself a "philosophical anarchist." Edwin Flogaus, a Pole, who has been in America ever since he was two years old, thirty years ago, is held for deportation. Hundreds of Russians all over the country are being held for deportation-chiefly because they are Russian workers, and as such, possible Bolsheviki.

This is only a partial list of the hundreds of aliens held, whose number increases daily.

The really serious aspect of deportation lies in the fact that many of these aliens are political refugees from their own countries. The Italian Government, it is stated, is sending Italians deported from the United States direct to penal colonies in Africa. The British Government will of course execute any Hindu revolutionists expelled from this country. And the Russians, if deported to Archangel or Vladivostok, will be forced into counter-revolutionary armies to fight their own comrades, or be immediately executed.

American citizenship does not protect the foreign-born worker. Any judge can decide that he took out his citizenship papers under false pretenses (this has already been done in two cases,) and he can be deported. Of course first papers do not count. But in order to take out first papers, the alien must renounce citizenship in the land of his birth. Revocation of citizenship or first papers therefore leaves the alien a man without a country, since he can be refused admission to his own land on the ground that he is no longer a

But to liberty-loving and self-respecting foreigners even this is preferable to remaining any longer in America, the worst industrial autocracy on earth. All over the country Deportation Clubs are being formed, composed of those who want to return to Europe and are not permitted to leave the country. Hundreds of thousands of aliens, who have been here for years, for decades, who have, in the words of E. E. MacDonald, one of the deportees:

helped to fell the forests,
dug deep in the mines;
built the towering buildings,

are now leaving the land of their adoption forever—poor as when they came, and poorer; for they have lost the best years of their life, their health, and their belief that the New World would give birth to the New Age.

Their hope is no more in America. Last of the autocratic nations, where the masses of men are still nothing more than machine-fodder, she lies on the dark side of the earth, whose horizon is tinged with the glow of the fiery rebirth of

The power of the Bolsheviki was in knowing what they wanted and sitting tight until they get it from whatever assembly they happened to be in. They went direct to the point. They wanted the industries for the proletariat and the land for the peasants. They went after that without compromise and without trading with any of their bourgeoisie enemies to get what they wanted.

Robins was compelled to make his professional bow to Trotzky. He had to acknowledge him the greatest orator he had ever heard. Here is another little passage from William Hard's Story:

He was walking up and down, slowly and calmly. He was not speaking. It was impossible for him to speak. People in the audience were speaking. Theywere speaking to him; and they were speaking severely and loudly. The words they used were "pro-German" and "German agent" and "spy" and "traitor." They roared. Trotzky walked up and down, and stopped, and pulled a cigarette from his pocket, and pulled a match, and lighted the eigarette. and smoked, and walked up and down. man in the audience, to Robins' personal knowledge, had a gun with which, as he confided to his friends, he would shoot Trotzky as soon as Trotzky appeared. He did not shoot. Trotzky smoked for quite a while. Then, when there was a lull, he raised his arm and lashed that audience into complete subjugated silence.

Facing the Democratic Conference, Trotzky did not even bother to refer to the words "pro-German" and "German agent" and "spy" and "traitor." He paid no attention to them. He plunged straight into Bolshevism and into Bolshevist program; and spoke for the program; and it began to win.

The Bolsheviki succeeded in getting the great assembly to refrain from endorsing the "Cadet Coalition" idea and to withdrawing the resolution in favor of going on with the war. And then he describes that audience and its victorious song:—

The audience stood, unregardful of national Russia. The resolution for the war was gone. It was buried. The audience stood and sang the song, the hymn, called "The International." They sang it for their message. It was their word. They had no word for Russia. They had no word for the fight against the Germans. They had "The International." It might have been sung in Germany. It is today being sung in Germany. It was sung that night in Petrograd with the souls of the singers. It was the symbol of the triumph, of the Bolsheviks in that Democratic Congress of All Russia.

Hard compares Robins' efforts to stem the forces of Bolshevism in this splendid short and pointed sentence:

"After all it was much like the case of a man blowing his breath in the same direction with a full grown natural tornado."

Before the Bolsheviki came into power, "Russia stood in the gale of the world war with an empty stomach." When the Allies said "Fight," Robins heard the answer:—

"Who made us fight? The Czar. What did the Czar want? The Dardanelles? Nothing. "Why do the Germans fight? Because the

Europe in revolution. The torch of Freedom is gone out of her hand.

Kaiser makes them.

The tides of men set eastward at last, and the current is past stopping. Slowly the American labor-market is drained of its submissive foreigners, from whose blood all the great American fortunes have been distilled.

Those who are not deported are leaving of their own free will, so let them deport and be damned.

JOHN REED.

"Why do the Allies fight? Because their rulers make them, by conscription. What do their rulers want? They want Syria for France and Mesopotamia for England and some Greek islands for Italy. When we ask them why, when we ask them to speak their full

mind, they say this is no time for speaking.

"We will speak. We will speak to everybody.

We will speak to the Germans. They are workers and peasants, too. Nine out of ten of them are workers and peasants. We do not want

their land. They do not want ours. We will

speak to them, and when we speak to them and

tell them what is in our hearts, they will not

fight us any more. Why should they?"
Robins lets another cat out of the bag which all
Socialists know, but it is good to feel that we
have been backed up by so good an authority.
"The Allies, of course, were conducting a propaganda in Russia. All governments were conducting propaganda everywhere and whining because

other governments were conducting it."

When Robins spoke in behalf of the Allies he was stumped by questions like the following:

"Comrade, we hear that in America strikes are broken by using policemen and soldiers against them. Is this true?" Why is it true?"

"Comrade, are there any workmen and peasants in the American Government? Are there any Socialists? How many?"

"Comrade, in America does not the capitalist get the surplus value of the labor of the workingman?"

The intention of such questions was unmistakable; and then, passing to the war, there would be questions indicating a profound dissatisfaction with Allied, and also with American diplomacy.

"Comrade, why does the American Government refuse passports to Socialists who wish to go to Stockholm to talk with the Socialists of the world?"

"Comrade, why does America support France and England in their desire for annexations, and why does it not urge them, as we urge them, to adopt the principle of no annexations and of the self-determination of all peoples?"

"Comrade, why do not the Allies, why does not America, make a full and frank and direct reply to the questions asked by Russia regarding the aims of the war?"

"All Power to The Soviet." The five words that won Russia for the Bolsheviki, and to the Socialist idea of a workers' world for the workers.

## AUSTRALIAN LABOR.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., June 11.—The annual labor conference is evenly divided on the matter of direct action being taken as to immediate communism, and an important factor in the situation is the attitude of the secretary, who is frankly declaring that the men are out to win by direct action. He also condemns the present arbitration law. This is met by a strong statement issued by the chief arbitration judge, in which it is emphasized that the community will rue the day if the men's demands are granted at the pistol point.

## BOLSHEVIK FORCES HAVE RETAKEN UPA.

LONDON, June 11.—Bolshevik forces on Monday captured Ufa, one of the cities recently taken by troops of Admiral Kolchak, after three days of sanguinary fighting, according to a Russian wireless despatch received here today.

Kolchak's armies, according to the latest Allied information, have retreated an additional 75 miles and their left wing now rests on the village of Sarapul, 650 miles east of Moscow.