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THE SOVIET

Devoted to the Interests of the Working Class

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A Call From Hungary

Hungarian Socialists Appeal to the Entente Workers

Workers of the "entente" countries!

The masks have fallen from the faces of your governments. They are trying to end the war with the most violent, imperialistic peace that the world has ever seen,—that same war into which they drove you in the name of democracy, and your burdensome lives in order that the German people should fall under economic oppression, in order that the power and wealth of your capitalists should increase to infinity, and in order that that power, erected on oppression and extortion, on blood and iron, should be let loose over the entire world.

All your hopes for a better and happier future to follow as a result of the Western European nations over the militarism and imperialism of Germany, were treacherously deceived, all promises given to you were lies in the mouths of your masters who were urging you to bend all your energies to the extreme in order to attain that victory which never had and never could have any other purpose than the erection, on the ruins of German Imperialism, of the world mastery of the bourgeoisie of the entente powers, though the consequences might mean the annihilation of whole peoples and of all civilization.

But these acts do not constitute the full extent of the crimes of the capitalists. Ever since they finished the war of nations, the capitalists began a new war, a struggle with a new enemy who threatened to deprive them of the fruits of victory. They started to war against the revolution of the international working class, which first broke out in Russia, struck off the chains of Russian capitalism, and laid the foundation for the supremacy of labor, under which there are neither plunderers nor plundered. Your bourgeoisie united with its worst enemy, the German bourgeoisie, in order that they might together fall on the new working class Russia, take possession of its richest provinces, plunder them, and, as far as possible, destroy the conquests of the revolution and, with the help of the Russian plunderers, establish anew the reign of rapacious exploitation. The German Imperialism, victorious over the Czar's army, and driving its followers far into Russia, was then the chief enemy of Soviet Russia. But afterwards, being tied up on the west by hostile armies, Germany could not attack working class Russia with its full force. The attempts of your bourgeoisie in equipping military expeditions into Siberia, Archangel and the Caucasus—expeditions which did not develop on a large scale as merely the effect of independent causes—were also directed at using all their strength to form one strong imperialistic ring.

Now the situation is different. The war has ended in the complete victory of one group, that of your bourgeoisie. It has driven its rival forever away from the world market and is getting ready to throw all its strength against the enemy which up to now has heroically stood against the onslaughts of the imperialists. It is trying to suppress the international revolution that started in Russia, in spite of the great difficulty and the enormous sacrifice, and recently entered a new struggle against Hungary. In spite of all the insincere assurances given to your representatives in the parliaments, that no more troops would be sent into Russia, your governments are ready to continue their counter-revolutionary expeditions on a large scale. Your governments are now planning to take possession of the heart of the Russian revolution, Petrograd, and the Finnish White Guard, which for a year with the help of imperialist Germany stamped out the Finnish revolution in a sea of blood, is now going to support your governments.

Your bourgeoisie is inciting the Rumanians and Czechs against the revolution of the working class in Hungary, which, for some two months, has taken the power into its own hands and has already nationalized the large estates, banks, factories, and dwellings and has thus given the workers the opportunity of getting out of the clutches of Capitalism. Thus your bourgeoisie is trying to stamp out the second working class island rising out of the trackless ocean of Capitalism.

Comrades, your bourgeoisie declares that Bolshevism has doomed Russia to famine and disorganization and is threatening the whole world with the same misfortune. True, there is terrible famine in Petrograd, the transportation system of the whole country is broken down, industrial life is choked off in most parts. But if, in spite of all efforts, the Bolsheviks are not in a position to organize production who should be responsible for that except your own governments who reduce the working class of Russia to want by their military invasion, who divert the best part of their youth into a struggle with the enemy, who by a blockade and economic isolation have made the work of build-

ing up the country on Socialist foundations difficult if not altogether impossible?

Comrades, the Russian and Hungarian workers cannot try for a victory of the revolution either alone or even if the German working class comes to their aid, formerly the strongest part of the international working class, but now weakened by their own bourgeoisie and by the economic ruin of their country. Now, when your bourgeoisie has reached the height of its power and is preparing on its side to catch the whole world in the claws of its militarism, there is only one power that can bring the Russian, Hungarian, and international revolution to victory. And this sole power is yourself, workers of the Allied countries. On you, comrades, lies the heavy responsibility of the future of the workers' revolution, which is at the same time the future of all humanity; your sacred obligation, your historic problem, must be to lift the terrible burden of Allied Capitalism from the oppressed, hungry peoples, to save the revolutions in the east which are in danger, and to prepare for the victory of Socialism over the whole world, and for this purpose you must overthrow your government and take the power into your own hands.

Comrades! When German Imperialism, in the heart of a victorious struggle in January, 1918, was preparing to settle its domination on Eastern Europe over the fallen body of the Russian revolution, millions of workers in Germany, Austria, and Hungary declared a political strike. It was not then given to them to break the mighty imperial machine, and their uprising was put down by the army. But the edifice of capitalist Germany began to totter, and they thus took the first step towards the November revolution which did not lead to any Brest-Litovsk treaty. They saved the honor of the working class of Germany, Austria, and Hungary, which had been so basely deceived by its leaders. Now it depends on you, comrades, to do the same. It is not sufficient for your representatives in parliament to refuse to vote credits; their votes will be beaten by the bourgeoisie majority. It is not sufficient for you to protest at meetings; your Clemenceaus, Lloyd-Georges, and Orlando will take no notice whatever. You must not wait till you can capture a majority of seats in parliament, for every day that you let pass in vain means death to thousands of workers, the destruction of treasures of civilization, and the sinking of mankind into a waste of capitalist anarchy. Every day that you lose in inaction may mean the ending of the working class revolution in Russia or Hungary, imposition of capitalist slavery for whole decades, or, if Capitalism cannot get over its military policy of destruction, also the destruction of European civilization and a return to barbarism.

The eyes of the struggling, suffering, and constructing working effort of your fellow-workers, struggling also for your freedom, gets class of Eastern Europe are turned towards you. On your revolution-results; on this depends your future and that of the working class of the whole world. And for you also peace has not brought prosperity and happiness, but great need and heavier slavery. Every victory of your imperialists against the republic of the working class strengthens the reaction and destroys the last remains of that democracy that appeared as the result of your previous great revolutions.

Show your plunderers action: demonstrations and mass strikes, show that you are ready to take up the mass struggle for Socialism, come to the aid of your brother-workers, to show yourselves worthy of your revolutionary past. Your revolution will also be difficult and demand sacrifices, you also will not conquer at the first attack, but every step you take in the direction of revolution will prepare for the final victory.

Long live the republic of the working class!

Long live the revolution in France, England and Italy!

Long live the revolution of the international working class!

The World Revolution

Electoral Program Deserted Even In England By Revolutionary Proletariat

From the Finnish Communist Paper "Viesti," published at Stockholm
Translated by O. W. Oksanen.)

To those for whom a revolution is nothing more than an attractive scenic exhibition, the stage of the world revolution has offered very little of interest within the past few weeks. While to those who see in a revolution nothing but disorder and riot, calamity and destruction, the past few weeks have caused endless weeping and lamentation.

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These two extremes are evidence of the change which is becoming apparent in those countries where revolution is in action—the change from the bourgeois to the proletarian revolution.

The decorative scenic exhibitions are missing—the momentary spell and glamour of bourgeois revolution, if it can be dignified by the name of revolution, has come to an end.

Destruction and disorder continue—the real revolutionists, who were suppressed by the old system, have grown so powerful that they were now able to destroy and crush that which oppressed them.

The revolution in action is disorder and destruction only in the eyes of an anti-revolutionist. It creates dissatisfaction only in the brain of an opponent of the revolution. Disorder and destruction are manifest only in comparison with the conditions existing prior to the revolution, with that order and system which is symbolical of oppression. In the same manner the disorder and destruction are ruinous only to those who idealize the political and sociological conceptions, teachings and system of the old oppressive order. To this extent a revolution is disorderly and destructive. It is in this that the essence of the revolution appears.

That which the bourgeois bewailers regard as the disorder of revolution, in its real significance, is not disorder. In part it is lack of permanent form, in part it is the emergence of the new structure. When the oppressed seek power through revolution, it is axiomatic, that the old order is not the fit instrument for the realization of the new ideas of life to which the revolutionists aspire. The old system must be destroyed and the new one created. During the struggle for the establishment of the new order, intervals occur when established ideals, teachings and system are lacking. Before the new society is stabilized there must of necessity be considerable conflict and frequent change. What the bourgeois bewailers term disorder is in reality the process of evolution from the old to the new, the constructive destruction of the revolutionary period.

To those who are semi-revolutionists it would be well to think these things over. Then they will not resort to the foolish arguments in which we, Finns, once sought consolation. When our bourgeoisie complained of the disorder of the Russian revolution, we consoled ourselves by thinking that it arose out of conditions peculiar to Russia alone, due to the lack of Russian organizing ability. When the Germans, the masters of technique and organization, create a revolution, there will be no disorder, we reasoned. And there was none, any more than there was in Russia. The same conditions existed, indeed no other conditions are possible. Organizing ability has little significance; in the countries where the revolutionary masses have greater ability the new order will be established in shorter time, provided the counter-revolutionary forces are not disproportionately stronger.

The above illustrates the evolutionary stage in Eastern, Central and parts of Southern Europe. The proletarian revolution is progressing in all these parts. In the Balkans, the Baltic States and Poland it is rapidly being moulded for action. In Austria and Germany it is shaping itself and waiting the opportunity to present its formulated plans, to replace the fantastic with the realistic.

A glance at the situation will reveal the struggling proletariat facing victorious Imperialism. The former still disorganized, as yet scarcely sensing international unity and groping for an affective form of international alliance. From the crushed imperialists of the defeated nations, the proletariat has inherited nothing but ruins, ashes and hunger. On the other hand the victorious imperialists, the war lords of the world, have a firm international alliance, fortified by complex conditions. From an economic standpoint the victorious imperialists are in a much stronger position. Though there is destruction and ruin in their territories, yet they control areas having abundance of food.

Between the two forces a conflict, which will determine the outcome of the world revolution, is inevitable. Is it possible that the proletariat will conquer?

When German Imperialism fell, all the conservative elements felt certain that millions of Entente soldiers would be led against the revolutionary proletariat of the different nations. Even the revolutionists everywhere feared that this would be so, though they were confident that the result would be the revolutionizing of Entente armies. Before this transformation could occur, however, they feared that much injury and suffering would be the portion of the revolu-

tionary proletariat.

But English Imperialism has at its disposal many more clever statesmen than Germany. The Germans rushed their armies into Finland, the Baltic States, Ukraine and Poland, and because of their shortsightedness, in this manner hastened the approach of their own destruction. English Imperialism expects to avoid this mistake. It would be ridiculous to maintain that England could not accomplish much harm with her armies wherever she pleased; but it would be bad diplomacy and she therefore desists.

The English diplomats can exercise self denial when victory requires it and they have the ability to judge the outcome of the future with more or less accuracy; two qualities that the German lords lacked completely.

The imperialistic statesmen of England seem to see clearly that they are standing on the top of a volcano. They seem to be somewhat uncertain as to their ability to prevent an eruption and they are working, first to prevent the outbreak and second to delay it as long as possible. And this is where their prudence is evident.

English industry has been entirely organized on a war basis. Now it must be changed to suit the requirements of peace. The interval caused by the transition has caused much dissatisfaction. Discharged soldiers swell the ranks of the unemployed. Charitable donations are insufficient to relieve the distress. But, it will be asked, has not there been sufficient time to establish industry on a peace basis? Most certainly, but there are other difficulties in the way. Raw materials must be obtained, and markets must be found for the surplus product. It would be possible to confiscate the raw material from the vanquished nations, Germany and Russia. But what about the markets? It will be asked, does not the proletariat need products? True, but they are so exhausted economically that they will not be a good market for England for many years to come. The other entente nations, France and Italy will in all probability not make good markets for England either, as they are faced with the same problem of changing their industries from a war to a peace basis, and in order to avoid disturbances caused by unemployment they also must produce on a large scale. If each of the entente nations is successful in making this change, then each will be compelled to seek markets outside the entente group. The result of this surplus production and capitalist competition will be new antagonisms between the nations of the entente. Here is cause for more wars—and for revolution.

The English statesmen suspect something of this sort, therefore they are proceeding very carefully, step by step, on the top of the volcano.

English diplomacy has been very successful historically. It does not boast if it calls itself unconquerable, but even it has met its master in the proletariat of the world revolution.

Today a political victory is a Pyrrhic victory. The revolutionary proletariat even in England has deserted its electoral program. There the tide of the general strike rises higher and higher each week; the growth of the revolutionary passion. We hear it murmur like the roar of the distant sea. It is the murmur of revolution, as yet incoherent. The lords, imperialist statesmen, may for a short time continue this incoherence, but it will not be for long. The millions of the English workers march on towards revolution.

So the world revolution moves towards the final stroke. Are you ready, comrades?

Workers Control of Industry

Capitalism Unscrupulously Desperate In Efforts To Crush Russian Workers

There is a counter-revolutionary magazine, *Struggling Russia*, (which is financed by American banks with Russian money), carrying on a very large campaign of advertising against the Workmen's and Peasants' Republic of Russia. This magazine insists that Bolshevism is "the central world problem."

The conscious capitalist press is now stressing this aspect of Bolshevism. They now recognize that it is not a problem of pro-German agents, of mass murder, of chaos in Russia; nor simply a Russian problem—it is the central world problem of Socialism against Capitalism.

The determining factor in international events is not that Germany has been crushed, or that a number of small nations have emerged to "independence," or that the world is being divided territorially and financially. The determining factor is that out of all this, out of the war and the collapse of Capitalism, has emerged the definite proletarian struggle for Socialism. This struggle for Socialism is no longer a theory isolated in action; it is now a fact of life itself, the most vital problem for Capitalism and the proletariat.

In meeting the problem, Capitalism is fighting for its very existence. And it is unscrupulous in its use of methods. The workers of Russia initiated this world struggle for Socialism; and so international Capitalism, represented by the allies, concentrates its attacks

upon the workers of Russia as the resolute defenders of the interests of the workers of the world. Starvation, counter-revolutionary plots, assassination, invasion and terror,—all these are means used in a desperate struggle to crush Socialist Russia.

The apologists of Capitalism try to complicate the problem. They try to make it difficult for the workers to understand.

But the problem is very simple. It is not a problem of democracy, or of communizing women, or of mass murder, or of any of the lies spread so feverishly by the bourgeois press and other agents of Capitalism. The crux of the "Russian problem" is simply this: workers' control of industry.

Let us for a moment consider the purpose of the Soviet Government. The political power of Capitalism (and its ally, the nobility) has been crushed. The workers have conquered political power. The workers are using this power to crush the industrial power of the capitalists,—giving the land to the peasants and the factories to the workers. A capitalist republic (such as prevails in our own country) recognizes the "rights" of capital as supreme the whole social system is based upon the supremacy of capital. The Soviet Republic, which is a republic of the masses of the people, recognizes the rights of the workers alone. The basis of the Soviet Republic is workers' control of industry,—Industrial democracy. Slowly, painfully, in spite of starvation and alien invasion, the Russian masses are crushing the power of capital, freeing the workers from the tyranny and the exploitation of capital, and constructing a new society of communist labor and fraternity, of workers' control of industry, in which labor shall work for the peace and happiness of the people, and not for the profit of the capitalists.

The Russian revolutionary masses are introducing Socialism. This fact is against the interests of Capitalism, since if Socialism proves a success in Russia the workers of the world will struggle for a similar objective. Capitalism, accordingly, mobilizes against the Socialist workers of Russia in order to crush the workers of the world.

What is Capitalism? It is a social system based upon private property, upon the private ownership of industry by the capitalists. The workers are deprived of industrial property; they must secure a job in order to live, and these jobs are dispensed by the capitalist owners of industry. The owner of industry is out to make profits; he employs the workers simply in order that they shall produce profits for him. The wages of the workers do not represent all the values produced by their labor; the employers appropriate part of these values, a surplus value over and above the value represented in the wages, which becomes the profit of the capitalist class. In other words, the workers are robbed of a portion of the fruits of their labor, out of which booty the capitalists acquire wealth and power.

Capitalist industry, moreover, is an autocracy. Starting with the small employer, up to the great masters of finance, the capitalist class absolutely controls industry.

This autocratic control of industry culminates in the absolute control of the industrial life of the nation—and of the world—exercised by finance-capital, by the great banks and industrial monopolists, by an insignificant minority of the people.

The workers have no say in the management of industry under this industrial autocracy. They have no vote in the management of production, or in the disposal of the goods they produce. They must accept the decisions of the industrial autocrats. They may ease their bondage a bit here and there by means of unions; but this slight advantage is offset by the increasing power and tyranny of capital.

Under this system, the workers do not work to live, they live to work. They live to produce wealth and power and pleasure for the masters of industry.

This industrial autocracy of capital controls the government. It controls the press. It controls the schools. It controls because these industrial autocrats have the wealth, and wealth under Capitalism means power. This industrial autocracy is able to purchase the services of a mercenary army of intellectuals, educators, politicians and journalists, whose task it is to deceive the masses and promote the supremacy of Capitalism. Democracy in government becomes a fraud under a system where industrial autocracy prevails.

Out of the industrial autocracy of Capitalism comes the misery and oppression of the workers, wars and all the evils that afflict humanity. Out of this system develops the class struggle of the proletariat to overthrow Capitalism.

As a contrast to this terrible system, the Soviet Republic of Russia looms as an oasis in the desert, as the Promised Land of working class emancipation.

First of all, the government of Soviet Russia is a working class government. The capitalists are excluded from participation in this government, since the class interests of the capitalists compel them to exploit the workers; and the Soviet Government is a government of the workers. Where a capitalist government uses its power against the workers and for the capitalists, the Soviet government uses its power against the capitalists and for the workers.

The purpose of the Soviet government is to break the power of the capitalists, and develop the conditions for the introduction of Socialism.

Socialism, in the theory of Marx and the practice of Soviet Russia, means workers' control of industry. How does this work?

In proletarian Russia, the factories are put in the control of the workers. The system of control starts at the bottom, with the workers, not with a bureaucratic state, or politicians, or capitalists. Every factory elects a Factory Committee, from among the workers and the technical staff, which is supreme within the factory. Where the capitalist owner has not been eliminated (in many cases he is temporarily retained as a manager) he is subject absolutely, in all his actions, to the control of the Factory Committee, which regulates the purchase and sale of products, factory conditions, wages, hours, etc.

But one factory is not independent of any other factory,—production is a complicated process that requires centralized management. The various factory committees in a particular locality, accordingly, elect representatives to a Lower Workmen's Council of Control, which regulates the relations of factory to factory in a particular district. These various Councils of Control are centralized into All-Russian Superior Council of Control, which unifies factory production in all the country. The central organ of industrial control is the Supreme Council of National Economy, which unifies the Workmen's Organs of Control, the peasants' committees of management, and the Soviet Government. In this way are unified production, distribution, wages and conditions of labor.

This is the basis of industrial democracy, of workers' control of industry. All these committees and councils of control are elected from the bottom up, by the workers, who are industrial citizens and use the industrial vote to control the management of production.

It is on the basis of this workers' control of industry—the end of capitalist industrial autocracy and the profit-power of the capitalists—that the workers and peasants of Russia are constructing a new society.

The "central world problem of Bolshevism," accordingly, is a simple workmen's proposition. It is within the comprehension of every man and woman who works for a living in shop, mill or mine; easily comprehended, in spite of the distortions of a mercenary press. The "central world problem of Bolshevism" means simply the determination of the proletariat to crush the industrial autocracy of capitalism and introduce the industrial democracy of Socialism,—workers' control of industry.

The Soviet Government itself, which is of a political character while elected industrially by the workers in the factories and the peasants in the fields, is a temporary affair. It serves two purposes: (1) to crush the political power and the resistance of the capitalists, Russian or alien; and (2) to develop the conditions for the construction of a new industrial government. When the introduction of Socialism in Russia (and the world) is completed, then the Soviet Government, the dictatorship of the proletariat, will disappear, having accomplished its purpose; then the only government which will remain (which is not a government in the old sense) will be the industrial administration comprised in the management and regulation of production of the workers. This final "government" is now being constructed by the Soviet Republic, through the Factory Committees, the Workmen's Councils of Control and the Supreme Council of National Economy.

It is a simple proposition, this workers' control of industry; but it means the end of Capitalism, predatory, reactionary, brutal, represented by the Allies, is determined to crush the Soviet Republic.

This means to crush everywhere the developing proletarian movement for workers' control of industry,—which alone can bring peace, liberty and happiness to the workers.

Capitalism means oppression, misery and degradation for the workers. The democracy of Capitalism (limited to politics) is a fraud means for the oppression of the workers. Capitalism and its democracy means want, unemployment, starvation wages, oppression for the workers; and wealth, ease and luxury for the capitalists.

Industrial democracy, workers' control of industry, means the world for the workers, peace, liberty, happiness.

In Sunny Italy

The situation in Italy looks promising from the proletarian point of view. The trouble that has arisen over the high price of food stuffs does not necessarily mean a revolution. Nevertheless, there is the chance of it developing into a revolutionary movement. The strength of the Italian movement is testified to in their ability to establish a dictatorship of the price of food. A taste of power is apt to encourage the workers to establish a political dictatorship of the proletariat.

The Italian Socialist movement has long been one of the best in Europe and the work that they have done in the past is about to bear fruit. Italy will probably be the next to assume its place among the proletarian powers.

One of the most encouraging bits of news that we have received is that on July 11th the Seaman's Federation prevented the steamer Cablens, London to Vladivostok, from leaving the port of Naples because it was carrying eighty cases of munitions destined for Allied contingents fighting the Bolshevik forces.

The A.F. of L. Entrenchment

"Holy Family" Took Action To Make Positions Secure

In the closing hours of the Atlantic City convention the "Holy Family" of the American Federation of Labor became apprehensive of the security of their future position and decided to entrench themselves.

There has been a strong tendency inside of the A. F. of L. to modernize the organization. Many workers have come to realize that the obsolete plan of craft organization is but the reflex of craft production and should pass away with the passing of craft production. They have come to understand that any organization that proposes to protect the workers in modern industry must be formed upon an industrial basis as a reflection of industrial production.

Further, as the development of the capitalist system has given a political character to strikes, by the more frequent and sudden use of the political weapons against the strikers, wage slaves have come to appreciate the value of calling a strike of the whole community.

These tendencies towards industrial organization and the general strike menace the security of the position of the ducesaters in the American Federation of Labor and they have taken steps to stop it.

The Constitution of the Federation has been amended to make it illegal for any organization or members of the organization to advocate a general strike or industrial organization without the consent of the General Executive Board of the American Federation of Labor. Everyone knows how much chance there is for the Executive Board to approve of that kind of agitation.

There is an old saying that if a calf is given enough rope it will hang itself. It is quite certain that the A. F. of L. is getting enough rope. The question of its hanging rests with the workers.

The Treaty of Versailles

Turns Over The Leaf For Revolutionary Period of "Storm and Attack"

By G. Chicherin, Russian Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

The Versailles peace treaty signifies not peace but a further continuation of war. It creates a condition that can produce nothing else than a continuation of the war. Besides, this is the purpose of the framers of the treaty, namely, to make the war conditions lasting in order to be in better position to combat the working class movement. The present de facto oligarchy keeps itself in power by inciting the workers of different countries against one another. It is obvious that the capitalist governments formulated such a peace as signifies a continuation of war. It is a war in so far as it drives certain workers into conflict with others; it is a peace in so far as, by the continuation of bloodshed, it does not kindle revolutions. Thus, in the last analysis, calculates the oligarchy. Whether their calculations are correct—that is another question.

One instrument of the unbroken warfare seems to be the League of Nations, which, under the Treaty of Versailles, implies a continuation of the coalition, not a peace organization for whose foundation Imperialism is clearly not fitted. But even this coalition can not exist for long; on the first contact with reality it will, of itself, fall to pieces.

The only purpose of the League of Nations is to serve as a demagogic cover under which is hidden the continued coalition of the Entente powers against their German rivals. The League of Nations used to be a demagogic means to work up the patriotism of the masses already ceased to believe the stories told them for such a long time, and in the Entente nations; but conditions have changed. The mob has all that demagogy on the League of Nations is already somewhat stale. I am convinced that it will not delay for one moment the rapidly spreading revolutionary movement in the Entente countries.

Besides the very fact of a continuing existence of a military coalition shows that the conditions created at Versailles are but a new form of prolongation of the war; it shows that the old world is not in a position to solve either the contradictions formed by it, or the problems which it establishes for itself, and that the moment has arrived for the new society to take the legacy which it alone is in a position to manage.

As to general disarmament, it is only a new manoeuvre to continue the rule of the oligarchy. Universal military obligation prepared the masses for revolution. The workers used the arms put into their hands to threaten their masters. Therefore the oligarchy is obliged to turn to the system of voluntary service and, instead of the national militia, there are organized bands of White Guards.

This program of disarmament is also a new demonstration that

the Treaty of Versailles is hurrying to reconcile not only national but class antagonisms. Germany brought to such financial exhaustion that the German people even if they worked day and night, could not recover from this condition. As to the other aspects of economic life, Germany is made entirely unable to pull itself out of the condition into which it is put. All this leads only to the result that the antagonism of interests in the international field will take on a most lingering, sharp and serious character.

Lorraine and the Sarre Basin constitute a prize of war, and through this acquisition the French hope to gain a large stake for their own pocket. The working class has nothing to gain on this, but it is a fact, on the contrary, that French capital is afraid of the revolutionary traditions of the French workers, and therefore frequently shows the inclination of fastening itself on a foreign labor market.

In the department of Meurthe and Moselle, French capital has not to deal with the French working class, but with a motley mass of workers of all sorts of nationalities. The French capitalists thus strengthen their class condition and still less than before reckon with the Parisian worker and their revolutionary inclinations.

In general, what is done at Versailles is not in a position to bring a condition of quiet; it only drives the workers into the street. This still-born treaty of the Allied powers turns over a new leaf in history for mankind: a revolutionary period of "storm and strike."

Russian Accusation

Workers' and Peasants' Government Ask For Investigation of An Atrocity

We reproduce the following from a Budapest paper, a copy of which was recently received in this country:

A charge that the British military executed without trial 26 Bolshevik prisoners who were on their way to confinement in India is contained in a wireless message, sent out by the Soviet government at Moscow, picked up by the steamer Franklin. The wireless does not state where the executions took place, beyond indicating an indefinite area near the Caspian Sea. The message also indicates that the prisoners were not shot by British soldiers, but by trans-Caspian counter-revolutionaries acting under orders from British officers. The message picked up by the Franklin is given here for the first time:

"News leaked out not long ago that a number of Russian revolutionary emissaries who had been captured were being deported to India by train. The train that carried them was brought to a lonely spot of the desert and the escort appointed by the British military authorities and the trans-Caspian counter-revolutionaries executed the orders given them. They shot their prisoners, 26 persons in all, and buried their dead victims in the sand. This atrocious and cowardly deed being committed, the British military authorities carefully tried to conceal it. General Thomson having requested Chaykin, of the Russian Soviet Government, to communicate to him the evidence upon which his statement was based. Chaykin demanded that the security of the witnesses should be guaranteed and that a mixed commission should investigate the crime, the impartiality of the investigation being thus secured. However, General Thomson rejected these just demands, clearly showing that the only desire of the British authorities was to take revenge upon those who had disclosed to the world their criminal deed. But the truth being now known, no stratagem can conceal it any more or save the perpetrators of this atrocity from public shame.

"The British Government, whose representatives have so often vilified the Russian workers' and peasants' government for the so-called red terror that is really a necessary act of self-defense; disfigured and magnified it by calumny; this same British Government is now publicly convicted of having committed a base and cowardly murder of defenseless prisoners whose only crime was that they remained faithful to their popular workers' and peasants' government.

"The British Government cannot point out any similar acts on the part of the Russian Soviet Government, the latter not being capable of such cowardice and treachery. The British Secretary of State having called the Russian Soviet Government murderers in its life and death struggle against a world of enemies, every honest man will now see who are the real murderers.

"The Russian Soviet Government protests before the laboring masses of the world against the shameful deed of the British authorities and appeals especially to the class-conscious workers of Great Britain who will not fail on the side of honor, of real justice and of social good.