

great mass of the people who live by toiling and producing the wealth of the world for meagre wages.

The very fact that capitalist apologists of the type of Governor Lowden are forced to use such silly statements is proof of their impotence; proof of their inability to stay the onward march of the proletariat. The workers' sun is rising and no modern Joshua is going to halt its progress.

THE DISEASE SPREADS

With the advent of proletarian rule in Russia the capitalists of the world became frightened at what they are pleased to call the disease of Bolshevism. And well they might be frightened, for it means their ruin. Like a contagious disease they have tried to quarantine it but with poor results. Because of their inability to understand the nature and cause of Bolshevism they have looked upon it as some mysterious malady and thought that by quarantining themselves against it they would be rendered immune. The historical development of Europe has shown that no capitalistic nation is immune, for the good and simple reason that Bolshevism is not something that is brought into a country from without.

Bolshevism is the natural result of the inherent contradictions within the capitalist system itself. These inherent contradictions in the capitalist economic system cannot be solved by the capitalist class. We cannot expect them to commit economic suicide. They merely stand demoralized upon the floundering ship of capitalism and fail to comprehend the nature of the social phenomena through which they are passing. They can but pour the oil of compromise upon the troubled waters of the social sea. All the while Bolshevism becomes more strongly entrenched and breaks out in other countries.

Germany

From the insistent demands made by the Independent Socialists for the Dictatorship of the Proletariat it would appear that the workers are becoming more active in their demand for the complete abolition of the capitalist system. Bernstorff, who is working with the Hillquit socialists of Germany, urges the government to convince the world that they do not want a revolution, in order that they may regain the good graces of their former enemies, and relieve the harsh "peace" terms and severe economic strain upon Germany. In this they are likely to fail, the economic pressure will increase. The result will be the success of Bolshevism in Germany. History is working for the proletariat.

Hungary

Bela Kun is still functioning as the Bolshevik leader in Hungary, and all indications are that the Communist government is growing stronger. They are organizing themselves to resist the Allied aggressions and to some extent are defeating the economic blockade by the use of automobiles and aeroplanes. It is reported that they are using these means to smuggle gold out of Hungary for the purpose of buying contraband.

The Allies have informed Bela Kun that they cannot treat with him until he has fulfilled the terms of the armistice. The slow and deliberate way with which the communists proceed to carry out the terms placed upon them by the Allies would indicate that they are pretty sure of their position. It is a question of hanging on until the workers rise in some adjoining country. A serious invasion of Hungary would probably precipitate a revolution in the countries of the invading armies. The Hungarian Communists can afford to wait. Time is their ally.

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 Seamen's Federation prevented the steamer Cablena, 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.

France and England

In France and England the workers are assuming a more belligerent attitude. They are taking action to assist their Russian comrades by preventing, as far as possible, the sending and maintaining of expeditions against them.

Among the syndicalists a division is developing. One tendency is toward a compromise between the classes the other toward a more revolutionary position. A new organ has come out as the mouthpiece of the revolutionary element, "L'International." "L'International" promises to fight interference in the affairs of the Soviet Government. The giant Labor is slowly awakening from his age long sleep.

Communiques

Our ex-comrade Seymour Stedman visited Detroit recently and attended a membership meeting of Local Wayne County. He was welcomed by the chairman, Dennis E. Batt, who remarked that he sincerely hoped that Mr. Stedman would meet with the same success in doing the dirty, contemptible work of the National Executive Committee as upon the occasion of his former visit.

Really, things have come to a pretty pass when the great Seymour Stedman has to go on the road organizing for the Socialist Party!

We learn that the National Office of the Socialist Party has dispensed with the services of five former employees. 'Smatter, Adolph, business falling off?

Former State Secretary of Michigan in sending out a call for an Emergency State Convention instructed Local secretaries to see to it that delegates to the convention were elected in the proper manner. This so shocked Adolph Germer that he put up an awful howl in the Eye-Closer. Perhaps you would not have fallen from grace, John, had you proceeded according to the formula "The constitution be damned."

It seems that a certain delegate to the Left Wing Conference from Ohio was laboring under the impression that the Conference was going to organize a political party and not an industrial union.

Again the ax has fallen and another State joins the ranks of the "outs." The Socialist Party of Massachusetts has been cast into the outer darkness by a vote of 10 to 3. Secretary Germer of the Seven Saviours has ordered the present State secretary to turn over his office and the property of the organization to his successor. What we would like to know is what steps Adolph will take to enforce his ukase. Scheidemann used machine guns—will the pupil measure up to the standard set by his master?

A definition by Jim Larkin: Suspicious person—one who writes books.

And by the way, the delegates to the Left Wing Conference were given a treat when Larkin described the raid upon the offices of the representative of the Soviet government by the agents of the Lusk Investigating Committee. Speaking in Madison Square Garden to an audience of some ten thousand people Jim pulled this one: "The office was raided by a gang of bastard Irishmen led by a god damned lousy Scotchman!"

The workers may not have read the Capital of Marx but they sure do bear the marks of capital.

The great problem at the Left Wing Conference was to "capture the Socialist Party for socialism" . . . the majority delegates are still "holding the bag."

Michigan is being re-organized! Otto Branstetter is meeting with great success. He has organized one Local of seven members and a Jewish Branch which was expelled by Local Detroit for participating in nationalistic activities has applied for a charter. Oh yes, even Michigan has its opportunists, and these are free to join with their fellows.

"Let's all get together with Michigan on September Morn," quoth the dough-boy delegate from that dear old Rockford, Ill.