

sufficed to produce the desired result, had it not been for the presence of Allied troops. Those who could not be bought were sent to prison. Having thus ridden themselves of their political opponents the French General Staff announced to the world that the population of the Rhinish province declared for an "independent republic."

From all indications the population expressed but little joy at their liberation from "Prussian tyranny." In answer to the news many serious demonstrations took place in various parts of the province, later turning into a general strike. The rank and file of the French soldiers evidently did not understand the "high" motives which prompted the General Staff, for there are cases on record in which the soldiers refused to fire upon the demonstrators. It was necessary to use negro soldiers from the African colonies.

Regardless of the attitude of the population toward this coup, the plans of the French military staff are quite definite. Under the guise of an "independent Rhinish Republic" they propose to get possession of the territory which they failed to secure at the Peace Table.

Other Allied commanders take a "neutral" attitude on this question. They understand the real cause of the adventure, and presumably do not approve of it, but in reality support it. When the workers of Coblenz, as a reply to their "liberation" organized a general strike, the commander of the American army of occupation arrested the leaders and stated that if the strike was not immediately called off the strikers would be deported. The strike was called off. The same action was taken by the British commander when a strike of protest was called in his jurisdiction.

When the Coblenz "Peoples Newspaper" came out in opposition to the Separatists, pointing out that the separatist movement was the work of the French General Staff, the commander of the American troops put a ban on the paper, the reason given was that it had "criticised our Allies."

All this leads one to ask: Did not the French General Staff work with the sanction and blessing of the "peace makers" at Versailles?

To openly cut off an area of ten thousand square miles, with a native population of more than seven million inhabitants, and give it to France would have been a scandalous matter. It is quite another thing, however, when it is made to appear that the population itself is demanding separation from Germany.

The realization of this rapacious policy is pictured as an act of "liberation." In this instance much the same policy was pursued as when the United States, some years ago, organized an insurrection in Panama for the purpose of "liberating" that territory. This left the paw of the United States upon the "liberated" Panama.

The French imperialists follow the same path. The "liberated" Rhinish province will be a milch cow for French imperialism.

LA BELLE FRANCE

News dispatches contain many references to the struggle now on in the French labor movement between the old leaders and the revolutionary groups who are striving for control. As the correspondents put it, the struggle is between the conservatives and the demagogues—a demagogue being one who demands the overthrow of the capitalist system. Those who sing the song of the capitalists are "shewd", "conservative" and "sensible."

Spirited opposition to the invasion of Soviet Russia and Hungary has been developing among the French workers. This sentiment crystallized in the demand for a general strike on July 21st. Over this matter came the struggle between the radicals and the conservatives. The reactionaries won in much the same manner as did their fellows who succeeded in defeating the Mooney general strike movement in the A. F. of L. convention at Atlantic City. The strike was made impossible by the tactics of the French labor leaders.

The national committee which killed the strike adopted a program demanding that France base its policy on the principles of the League of Nations. If the Shantung grab is a fair sample of the application of those principles, the French government will very likely grant this demand. Many demands of a like nature were made. It appears that in France, as in other countries, one of the first things which the workers

Communiques

With the two National Executive Committees of the Socialist Party squabbling as to which is which, the "struggle to capture the party for the revolution" appears to have degenerated into a jurisdictional dispute.

"Air mail men strike. Call planes bad; refuse to go up in bad weather." The strike fever seems to be in the air.

Now that the call for the formation of a new socialist party which was issued by the State Convention of the Socialist Party of Michigan has been characterized as "menshevik," we suppose that the proof will be forthcoming.

A lot of perfectly good paper and ink has been wasted "explaining" that mutiny of American troops in Siberia.

It is the empty wagon that makes the most noise—and likewise the loud mouth usually is accompanied by an empty head.

The Finnish Federation endorses the Third International—providing the Third International adheres to the old and repudiated reformism.

It is passing strange that the Revolutionary Age is boasts of such an indorsement—of course they forgot to mention the reformism proviso.

The State Executive Committee of Pennsylvania has turned its back upon the "left" and returned to the fold.

There are only two roads—one leading to the camp of the opportunists the other to the Communist Party.

Translated into everyday language, "Left Wing Official News" means the personal opinions of I. E. Ferguson.

League of Nations Restaurant.

Bill of Fare.

African dark meat served on broken China.

Carved Turkey served with enriched Greece.

Small Nations hash with Red peppers.

Russian caviar a la bolshevik.

Bela Kun goulash Red hot.

Sauer kraut at reduced rates.

All dishes garnished with Yankee Democracy.

Not responsible for any damage done by Italian waiters.

must do, as a preliminary to further progress, is to clean out the reactionary leaders.

REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY IN GERMANY.

"Comrade" Noske, the Butcherer, has his hands full these days. His executioners are kept busy with their machine guns in the streets of Berlin.

Opposition to the Berger, Hilquit, Germer brand of "socialism is growing steadily. The rank and file of the German working class is growing steadily more revolutionary, and it is doubtful if the "socialist" servants of capitalism will be able to maintain their position much longer.

On the 21st of July the German workers made a strenuous effort to co-operate with the world's workers in an international strike. Noske, the Butcher, crushed it with machine guns and flame-throwers. In Bendorf-on-Rhine the same work was done by American soldiers.

The whole of Germany is in the throes of great strikes and it is quite evident that the government of Ebert will not last long if they continue.

By their strike activities the German masses are forcing the Centrists to take a more radical attitude. The demand now being made is that all power be surrendered to the Workers Councils.

That the revolutionary sentiment is growing is proven by the fact that the workers of Berlin paraded the streets carrying the red flag and singing the "Marseillaise" in spite of the opposition of the government.