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## IMPERIALIST HOPES VANISH

Allied imperialism, after combining diplomatic deceit with a half-hearted and underhanded attempt to crush the Russian revolution, finally threw all its resources behind the Russian monarchist, Kolchak. The recognition of this former czarist prompted the remark from Leon Trotsky that Kalchak would have to put the crown on his head in a Siberian forest, instead of at Omsk, recognized by the Allies as the "seat of the Russian government." History will vindicate Trotsky's prophecy.

Omsk is becoming a dangerous place for the Czarist admiral of the "land forces" to inhabit and his greatest concern at the present moment seems his personal safety. As the New York Russian paper, *Novy Mir*, has observed, "The museum of Russian counter revolution will soon be enriched by one more political mummy." After Korlinoff, Krasnoff—after Krasnoff, Skoropadsky—after Skoropadsky, Kolchak.

The final blow to Kolchak is at the same time the final blow to the intrigues of the allied imperialists. Until recently the Allies have had hopes of keeping the fires of reaction burning in the Omsk region, but the reptile press of the imperialists is compelled to record the barely controlled outbursts of discontent that constantly threaten the collapse of the Kolchak venture. Combined with the distressing news of the military defeat of Kolchak and the spread of revolutionary sentiments among the men composing his army the financial capitalists are confronted with the demands on the part of all sections of the English liberals for withdrawal of troops from Russia. Only a few days ago the British ex-premier, Asquith, recognized as the spokesman of the right wing of the British liberals, delivered a speech against intervention in Russia. The liberals of the left, whose most efficient journalistic spokesman is the *Manchester Guardian*, have long since spoken in no uncertain terms against intervention. The position of British labor in opposition to intervention in Russia is well known. This development leaves the British conservatives alone in Britain upholding the policy of intervention. It should by no means be implied that the liberals are in favor of the Soviet government. It simply means the more farsighted elements have realized the futility of armed intervention. Simultaneous with the changed attitude of Asquith comes the report of the correspondent of the conservative *London Times* from the Archangle front that the entire European Russia is in the hands of the Bolsheviks and that no defeat of them is possible. The Parliament's correspondent of the *Chronicle*, always acquainted with the trend of thought in the House of Commons, reports that the anti-interventionist movement is steadily gaining in strength.

An analysis of the situation in Britain makes it apparent that the spokesmen of the British government are endeavoring to find some way to gracefully retreat from a very untenable position. It is quite evident that Allied imperialists will soon make a peace offer to Soviet Russia. The offer will be carefully considered from every viewpoint by the Soviet government and it will give its answer. The character of that answer is apt to be very different from what the Allies are expecting. The Russian revolution is not now in the position it was when the offer for a conference at Prince's Island was made. Undoubtedly valuable concessions would then have been surrendered by the Soviet government, as time was needed for reorganization of many basic industries. That condition no longer exists. Not only have the red armies been victorious

on all fronts, but within Russia the transportation system has been wonderfully improved, living conditions have been greatly bettered and are constantly improving. Revolutionary Russia is stronger today than ever. When Soviet Russia comes to discuss terms of peace this time it will not be in the position of a new revolutionary government waging a doubtful struggle for existence, but in the position of a victor. And to the victor should go the spoils.

The time has now definitely and forever passed when an Allied victory is possible in Soviet Russia. All hopes of victory were based upon the success of Kolchak's spring drive. The long struggle through the summer, the final defeat of Kolchak, and now the approach of another winter, making operations against the revolution from the Siberian front impossible, thus affording an opportunity for even more intensive organization within Russia form a combination of circumstances that dooms the last hopes of the Allied Imperialists.

Soviet Russia, under other conditions, when fighting for life was compelled to yield to the "Brigand's peace" of Brest-Litovsk. But over the heads of the German imperialists the revolutionary challenge was sent to the working class of Germany. From the diplomatic conference with the spokesmen of the Allies the shallowness of imperialist statemanship will be exposed to the view of the workers of the Allied countries.

From that conference will again emanate the old call for workers of all countries to unite against their oppressors, but not in the nature of a challenge to capitalism so much as a call to the final conflict.

To the victor shall go the spoils; and the victor in this conflict will be the revolutionary proletariat of the entire world under the invincible banner of the Third Internationale.

## THROTTLING AN INTERNATIONAL STRIKE

The failure of the international strike scheduled to take place in England, France and Italy on July 21st as a protest against Allied intervention in Russia is one more damning count in the indictment of the proletariat against the right and centrist leaders. The strike did not give the desired results because it was not a general, but a partial strike.

The heads of the French Confederation of Labor, although instructed by the membership to call a general strike, tabled the orders because, forsooth, the bourgeois parliament had expressed its distrust of one of the minor members of the Clemenceau Cabinet. In their explanation of this act to the proletariat of the world they professed to believe that after the repudiation of this member by parliament would come the fall of Clemenceau and then "the day of the proletariat would be at hand." If the heads of the French Confederation of Labor believed in the sincerity of the capitalistic parliament they were sadly fooled and thereby prove their incompetence as labor officials. The majority of the French Confederation of Labor is composed of anarcho-syndicalists (enemies of parliamentarism), but they did precisely what every revolutionary socialist expects them to do in a crisis; align themselves with the reformers in the ranks of the socialist parties, whose tactics they profess to despise. These alleged opponents of parliamentarism, rather than face the stern reality of participation in a test of proletarian strength resorted to the cowardly tactic of the pure and simple reformer by professing confidence in the capitalist state. By refusing to participate in the proletarian test of strength they played the role of traitors, not only to the proletariat of Russia and Hungary, but to the proletariat of their own country.

The same contemptible role was played by the labor leaders of great Britain. In the issue of July 10th the *Manchester Guardian*, organ of the Liberals, prints a letter from one Benshtock, leader of the Russian Mensheviks, addressed to the Central Committee of the British Labor Party. This man writes:

"Of course, we ought only to be glad at the decision of the British workers to organize a demonstration against the intervention of the Allies into Russian affairs."

This in the nature of a complaint; then follows a casual observation from this Russian menshevik to the British menshevik, which lays bare an international conspiracy against the proletarian revolution:

"Kolchak and Lonine in an even measure support reaction. Bolshevik Terror and the general policy of the soviets are the best mediums of reaction. Therefore all support of the soviet government will give aid to reactionists."

Arthur Henderson and J. Ramsey McDonald and their lieutenants are still the leading spirits in the British Labor Party and the majority of the prominent figures in this organ-