

# The Hireling Who Failed

The move we anticipated two weeks ago on the part of Kolchak, the monarchist adventurer and hireling of Allied imperialism, has materialized and this heroic defender of the faith has unceremoniously moved from the former seat of his government, Omsk, to Irkutsk, thirteen hundred miles away. When Kolchak first became a factor against the Bolsheviks, the entire capitalist press of this nation, administration and anti-administration alike, hailed him as the savior of the world. As month after month passed and the Red Army continued unchecked against him the attitude of the anti-administration papers has changed from one of loyal support and unstinted praise to vituperative denunciation.

The only exception to this attitude on the part of the capitalist class was that of such publications as the "Nation", the "Dial" and the "New Republic." These publications represented the interests of the small manufacturing capitalists of the United States who wanted to establish economic relations with Soviet Russia in order to dispose of their products. They cloaked their material interests under the guise of desiring "self-determination of peoples." Speaking for the petty bourgeois they were unable to comprehend the fact that the success of the proletarian revolution in Russia meant the spread of the Bolshevik propaganda to other countries and threatened not only the existence of the large imperialist capitalists, but of the capitalist class as a whole. Other publications, frankly representing imperialism, advocated a declaration of war against Soviet Russia, in order to help Kolchak establish a capitalist government in Russia. The only thing that prevented a declaration of war on the part of the Allies was the fear of arousing the masses of workers in their own countries against the Allied governments. The Wilsonian policy of intervention and aggressive warfare without the preliminary of a declaration of war was carried to the utmost extreme. The history of Allied intervention in Russia is a history of infamy and the statesmen who conspired against Soviet Russia have written into the pages of history a record of shame for themselves that all the panegirics of the pen valets of imperialism can never efface.

Now that the hireling, Kolchak, has failed and his army dispersed before the onward sweep of the Bolshevik army, under the crimson emblem of Communist Internationalism, the reptile press, or that portion of it representing the anti-administration forces, true to its snake nature has turned upon this imperialist failure and is stabbing him to death with its venom. The Chicago Herald-Examiner, a publication which devotes columns to denunciation of the revolutionists in the United States, now speaks against the intervention of the United States army in Russia in an editorial which appeared in the issue of Aug. 20th, under the caption "Worse than a Crime":

Kolchak has shifted his headquarters back from Omsk to Irkutsk. Neither name conveys much to most of us. But when the map shows that Irkutsk is nearly thirteen hundred miles farther from Moscow than Omsk, the case is clearer. It is as if Kolchak, having designs on Washington, shifted his center of operations

from Chicago to Salt Lake City. This strategic move is explained as a "normal setback to a healthy cause."

Outside of the administration, how many people in the United States can swallow such an explanation? How many are there who have not been convinced for months that Kolchak, whatever he represents—and what he represents seems very dark and doubtful—is not wanted by the Russians? And if he is not wanted, why on earth are young Americans alternately burning a little while and freezing a long while, with intervals of being shot and bayoneted, in his support?

Even the Gallipoli campaign was the subject of court martial investigation in England. And the only objections to the Gallipoli campaign were that it was badly conceived and feebly supported. Our Russian—or, rather, our Siberian—venture adds to these the crowning stupidity of being a campaign which, if successful, would have been unwelcome.

It is hoped that Japan enjoys the spectacle of young America being sacrificed to a spirit to proud to stop fighting. For it saddens and disgusts everybody else.

Had Kolchak been successful, no matter what he really represented, he would have been lauded by the Herald-Examiner and every other paper, and the Wilson administration's attitude toward him would have been justified in the columns of the entire plute press. That would have necessitated an attack by the anti-administration organs upon some other phase of his policy. The only crime one can commit is to fail. Kolchak is not denounced because of the death train of

Siberia, or the putting to death of men, women and children who are suspected of harboring Bolshevik sympathies, but only because he failed. He failed because he could not marshal sufficient forces to crush the Bolsheviks. His weakness proved that he was wrong. Had he been victorious he would have been right, for the victor is always right, because back of him is the power that has made possible the victory.

"Might is Right!"

Might has been right throughout all previous history of the world; it is right today, and it will be right in all the aeons of ages that stretch before us in the unknown future. Whatever else history may hold in its bosom for mankind, we know there will only be one wrong, and that will be failure, and only one right, and that will be might.

The ruling class is beginning to recognize the fact that Bolshevism is right for Russia, because it is capable of defending itself, while it is wrong in all other countries because it has not yet acquired sufficient power. When the workers of all countries, like those of Russia, have raised themselves to the position of the ruling class and proclaimed the Dictatorship of the Proletariat of the world, anything they do will be right, because they will have the might to enforce it.

## THE INVISIBLE CLUB

Terrible is the weapon used by the master class. Death through starvation is awful, but is there any way out of it under the present system of society. Will submission to the exploiters save us from starvation? No. Hungary submitted, the Hungarian workers lost courage and surrendered, and what happened? The hirelings of capitalism (the Roumanian army) is laying bare fertile Hungary and misery has increased ten-fold. Did the German workers save themselves from starvation by submitting to slavery? Do the American workers save themselves from starvation by submission. No. They only make the process longer.

So long as there is wage slavery so long will the workers be ever on the verge of starvation. For the master class controls all the necessities of life and they can shut off the food supplies at any time. Only by destroying the system of wage slavery can the workers become masters of their own lives. But wage slavery will not be abolished by strikes of separate unions or by one big union. To

be organized economically is not enough, they must be organized politically to gain control of the State, using its powers in their great struggle to rid themselves of the social parasites who at the present time control the means of production and the goods for distribution.

"Liberty, Fraternity, Equality" was the rallying cry of the revolutionary bourgeoisie at the cradle of capitalism; the slogan "Make the World Safe for Democracy" is the litany chanted at the brink of its grave.

The only criticism we find of the Hungarian workers is that they did not fight until the last man fell rather than submit again to the dictatorship of capitalist imperialism. But even out of this defeat a lesson has been gained; that lesson is to never let any sentimental scruples interfere with the iron dictatorship of the proletariat once again they gain supremacy.

## FORWARD TO MEXICO!

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tween two trenches; yet it is to protect his oil interests that American soldiers will be there. Nor will we read of the carcass of William Randolph Hearst furnishing a banquet for buzzards upon the bleached plains of Mexico while protecting his land interests; yet sons of the working class will die for him.

One lesson the workers must learn is that this stage of capitalistic develop-

ment is essentially warlike and that wars will continue just as long as capitalism lasts. The defeat of Germany was not the end of all wars, as we were told it would be, and the defeat of Mexico will not end imperialistic aggression, but only accelerate it.

In the struggle for imperialistic supremacy the workers have nothing to gain. Their interests is not to subdue Mexico, but to destroy capitalism.