

An Appeal from Petrograd

COMRADES:—In troubled times, we, the workers of the city of Petrograd, have held the regular elections for our Soviet. The elections were held at a time when the armies of your governments were threatening our city and when we were suffering unheard of hunger as a result of the blockade imposed upon us by your governments. Nevertheless, the workers of Petrograd have remained at their posts, hundreds of thousands of them taking part in the elections of our Soviet. Today this newly elected Soviet has convened for the first time. Thousands of representatives of the workers, the Red Army, the sailors, the day laborers and the workers' organizations are participating in our assembly.

And with one accord, we direct this message to you: We shall continue to support the Soviet system, the dominion of the workers and peasants. To the last breath we shall fight for the triumph of Socialism against the bourgeoisie.

In this solemn hour we turn to you with this question: Why have the governments of your countries undertaken a campaign against our city, why are they bringing disorder into our city, why are they shooting down our fathers and brothers, why are they forcing us to starve? All the reports of a reign of terror in Petrograd sent out into the world by the bought press of the bourgeoisie are impudent lies. We are suffering from hunger, we are breaking down at our work in the shops, yet in our ranks proletarian discipline and perfect order reign. We are defending ourselves against our enemies, they are attacking us on all sides, and yet step by step, we are creating the proletarian state. In the eyes of your bourgeoisie, we are at fault because we were the first to raise the red flag, the first to do away with the Czar and the bourgeoisie, because for two years we have been holding power in our hands, and because we have given the fields to the peasants and the factories to the workers.

**To the Workers, Soldiers and Sailors in England, France, Italy, America, Sweden, Finland, Esthonia, and Serbia—
A proclamation of the Newly Elected Soviet in Petrograd.**

Your governments hate us because we have made public the secret treaties which your governments made with the Czar. Your governments hate our city because it was the first to hoist the flag of the proletarian revolution.

We are appealing particularly to the workers and soldiers of Esthonia and Finland. For two years you have been deceived. You were told that we wish to conquer Esthonia and Finland. This is untrue! At the meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the All-Russian Soviets, our representative, Comrade Zinoviev, announced in the name of the whole Soviet government, openly and clearly, that our armies received official orders under no circumstances to cross the boundaries of Finland and Esthonia. The Central Executive Committee is the highest executive body in all Russia. A decree issued by that body is absolutely official. Comrades:—We are convinced that for you, too, the hour is approaching when you will free yourselves from oppression by the bourgeoisie. The governments of your countries are doing their best to destroy themselves. Yet we do not wish to fight you. It is your governments that are provoking war.

Comrades:—How long are you going to allow your governments to supply the parasites and hangmen with arms, money, officers, and food? In the Murman district, English, French, Italian, and Serbian troops are fighting us. At Narva the Swedish slaughter divisions are opposing us. Along the whole Esthonian and Finnish boundary the government troops of those countries have been and are fighting against us. Your governments are sending spies and agents to Petrograd. These rascals are causing explosions in Petrograd, are

throwing out sacks of gold in order to recruit rebels and traitors among the Russians. The butchers' government of Finland is sending airships to bombard our villages and stations.

For all that, we do not give up and never shall. We are convinced, Comrades, that in your countries too, the Red Flag will triumph. We live under the conviction that the workers of France, England, America, Italy, and the other countries will not allow their bankers and landowners to use them as the gendarmes and hangmen of the workers' revolution.

Your governments say that they do not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of Russia. But this is an impudent lie. Your governments have recognized as the legal ruler of all Russia the miserable slave and murderer, Admiral Kolchak, against whom the workers and peasants of Siberia and the Urals are now revolting.

Your governments are throwing out billions to help the Czarist generals to re-establish the Monarchy. Your governments are supplying the counter revolutionists in Russia with all necessities from tanks to spies. Your governments have helped slaughter thousands of workers in Yakatrinoslav and Kharkov, only because they were workers. Your governments are responsible for the atrocities of the slaves who, before they evacuated Perm, burned several thousand imprisoned Red Guardists. Your governments are responsible for the famine in our land.

Arise in revolt, Comrades, put an end to the crimes of your governments. Extend the hand of brotherhood to the workers in the other countries. Do everything in your power to withdraw support from the counter-revolutionaries in Russia.

We send you our fraternal greetings and cry out together with you, "LONG LIVE THE REVOLUTION OF THE WORKERS IN ALL LANDS!"

Break the Blockade of Soviet Russia!

The first great campaign undertaken by the Communist Party is the struggle to arouse the workers to action against the blockade of Soviet Russia.

The Central Executive Committee calls upon all units of the organization to celebrate the beginning of the third year of the existence of the workers' government of Russia by wide-spread agitation against the blockade. It is the work of the Communist Party to furnish the leadership that will lead to action. From November 7th to 9th all branches should arrange mass meetings and adopt resolutions against the blockade. Use your local speakers for this purpose as the nationally known speakers will be used for great mass meetings that will be held in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis and in other cities.

Our meetings, however, will be only the minor effort of this campaign. We must reach more people than will attend our mass meetings, be they ever so large. We must speak with a million voices and to millions of people.

We can do this through a literature distribution. The National Organization has prepared a leaflet "Break

the Blockade of Russia" that will stir the workers of this country to action. We must distribute this leaflet by the millions during the first week in November. The presses are already running printing the first big edition and will be kept running until every party organization is supplied.

Every party unit must act at once. Call a meeting. Decide how many leaflets you can distribute in your city and send in your order. The leaflets will sell at \$1.50 per thousand.

Comrades, agitation must come before the work of organization which will make possible the use of the mighty powers of the workers. This is a campaign to stir the workers to come to the rescue of our comrades in Russia whom the international financial pirates are seeking to strangle to death.

Communists, ours is a party of action. Let us show by our first major campaign that already we have power, we can influence the masses. Let us speak in a million voices in the interests of our comrades whose shining example has inspired us all.