

The Communist

All Power to the Workers!

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Greetings from the International Movement

I

A Message to the Communist Party of America from the Communists of Great Britain

Comrades:

We congratulate you on the great fight for Communism which you are carrying on in face of persistent coercion and oppression. The bourgeois republic of America is proving, in conclusive fashion, to any workers in Europe who may doubt it, that a republic is no better than a monarchy while Capitalism remains. As a matter of fact, comrades, we observe that the tactics which your capitalists are practicing against you over in America are often copied by British capitalists in their warfare with British labor. No doubt your capitalists also take hints from British capitalists as to how both to coerce and mislead the workers.

The fight for Communism is world wide, and in nothing do we see this more plainly than in the international combination of of Capitalism against

Soviet Russia. You, comrades, are now being victimized for your adherence to the Revolution—for your struggle in support of Soviet Russia and the great principles of Socialism which at last are being put into practice there.

Today it is you who are attacked, presently it will be our turn once more. In the meantime we send you our hearty greetings and good wishes for the establishment in America of the Soviets and Communism.

Yours for the International Revolution,

(Signed) E. SYLVIA PANKHURST,
for the Workers' Socialist Federation,
ALBERT INKPIN,
for the British Socialist Party.

(January 6, 1920.)

II

A Message from the Communists of Siberia to the American Revolutionary Movement

Comrades of America:

Siberia is threatened with one of history's greatest typhus epidemics, according to a report of Colonel B. P. Teusler and a party of American Red Cross workers who have been in western Siberia. Among the Siberian troops alone there have been since January 1, about 120,000 cases of typhus. All the available hospital resources are exhausted and the epidemic is rapidly spreading among the healthy soldiers of western and middle Siberia. In this area thousands of unfortunate people in the towns exist in unspeakable misery. In the vicinity of Omsk 30,000 people are actually without shelter. Thousands dig holes in the ground in the hope of escape from freezing. Sanitary conditions are so frightful that unless relief is furnished the death toll this winter will be more than anything heretofore known in Russia and Siberia. And this is the report of an American officer and Red Cross Party! . . . Yet in spite of all this the Entente brigands maintain their impenetrable blockade! . . .

We hope that the different American organizations, industrial and political, will answer this call of mercy and spread it among the masses, until every heart feels the black crime that is being perpetrated against Russia. . . .

We were in the midst of this appeal to the Workers of America when, like a bolt from the blue, we received the happy tidings of the activities of our brothers and sisters in the United States. We are now certain that

America will wholeheartedly come to our aid, and to the aid of the German, Austrian and English war-prisoners in Russia. When we said that America was the despair of the revolutionary world, our statement, we now see, was not fully justified. We have now learned that thousands of our comrades in America have been arrested and abused, as a result of the bandit raids of the police and the Department of Justice; we have heard, with the greatest indignation, of the sudden attacks of these White Guards in blue uniforms upon peaceful and legitimate meetings convened to celebrate the Second Anniversary of the Russian Workers' Republic, and how they had made arrangements for a massacre at the Communist Party demonstration at Rutgers Square, New York, . . . and we hurl back into the teeth of the calumniators of Soviet Russia the assertions of a Red Terror.

The workers of America must have learned two things by this time: (1) That the government of the United States is the ruthless, deadly instrument of the American capitalists. (2) That under Capitalism there can be no democracy, and that government is a means for the oppression of the people.

We have also become acquainted with your great strikes, particularly the steel and coal strikes. Your developing class consciousness, workers of America, moves us to our hearts, and we use this opportunity to send you our best wishes and expression of solidarity. . . . The workers of America will yet demonstrate their mighty proletarian mass action.

On With the Struggle

THE ruling class of the United States has struck its blow at the revolutionary movement.

With a ruthlessness never equaled by autocracy and reaction anywhere, it has filled its prisons with men and women who are to be deported or imprisoned for long terms of years.

To strike fear into the hearts of the workers the raids and arrests were carried out with the utmost brutality. Many of the workers arrested were mercilessly beaten by the thugs who call themselves agents of "law and order," after they were helpless in the hands of their enemy. Agents of the Department of Justice tortured workers who refused to answer their questions by methods that equaled those of the Spanish Inquisition.

Even the capitalist sacred right of private property was not respected, for wherever the representatives of "law and order" made their appearance they destroyed the contents of the headquarters of the working class movement. Office furniture and records were confiscated or destroyed and the machinery of printing plants smashed.

This is the "law and order" of the capitalist class. Thus does the White Terror teach the workers that the capitalists respect no laws when their property interests are at stake and that no act of terrorism is too vile for those who uphold the sacred right of the capitalists to rob and exploit the workers.

The courts and immigration officials are now taking in hand the victims of the White Terror, continuing the work which the thugs and gunmen of capitalism began.

And what has the ruling class accomplished?

Has it struck terror into the hearts of the workers pledged to the revolutionary movement? Has it destroyed their organization and made it im-

possible to continue the work of agitation and organization among the unenlightened workers?

The ruling class of the United States will soon receive its answer.

In place of striking fear into the hearts of the workers it has aroused thousands to a consciousness of the struggle that must be waged until capitalism and reaction is wiped out. In place of compelling the workers who had their place in the organized Communist movement to desert their organization, it has steeled their nerves for the uncompromising struggle. In place of destroying the organization of these workers as represented in the Communist Party of America, it has merely brought about a readjustment in the methods of that organization which will place it beyond the reach of its enemy.

The work of agitation and organization will go on. There is no power in the hands of the ruling class of this country that can stop it. As the class struggle grows more bitter—and it daily grows more bitter; as the workers realize that there is no hope for them as long as the capitalists control the machinery of production—as they are realizing in greater and greater numbers; as the collapse of the structure of capitalism comes nearer—the portends of which are already evident in the financial difficulties of the capitalist world, there will rise a powerful and militant working class movement that will take reigns of power and bring to an end the rule of reaction and the White Terror.

The ruling class of the United States has struck its blow. The answer will be—must be—a stronger Communist Movement.

On with the struggle, comrades. We do not flinch before persecution. We fight on.