

American Imperialism.

The working class of the United States is more or less familiar with the crimes of the English Government in Egypt, India, Ireland, and elsewhere; of the Belgian Government's atrocities in the Congo; with Germany's raid into Belgium, etc. The brutal imperialism of the governments of European States acting in the interests of their respective capitalist-financiers, the bloody reigns of terror, the mass murders and atrocities perpetrated upon defenceless unarmed colonial peoples in Asia and Africa, their enslavement and the merciless exploitation for the advantage of international finance-capital, has often been exposed to the horrified vision of the so-called American public. The innocent and gullible workers in the United States have wondered how such things could be, and swelled up with virtuous indignation at the treatment accorded the Irish and Indian peoples at the hands of English Imperialism, believing their own capitalist government to be guiltless of such practices.

The American-Imperialist Government posing as the righteous protector of defenseless and economically backward peoples, has long been held up before us in the shape of the kindly, benevolent Uncle Sam to whose magnanimous soul nothing could be dearer than the welfare and prosperity of the little sister republics in the Caribbean Sea, Mexico, and Central America. For the dark-skinned people of these undeveloped countries, the United States professes an enduring and disinterested affection. Against the evil designs of European Imperialism the United States has shielded them under the aegis of the Monroe Doctrine. School children and other political infants have been taught to believe that the application of the Monroe Doctrine protected these weaker states in the Western Hemisphere against European aggression, but few have realized that notwithstanding its few have realized that notwithstanding its hypocritical and high sounding phraseology, the Government of the United States in the interests of the American Capitalists, has practised the very aggressions and tyrannies against which it has pretended to safeguard these weaker states.

American Imperialism began in earnest in the year 1898, when the U. S. at the instigation of the American Sugar Co. and the American Tobacco Co., took under its protective wing the Island of Cuba, incidentally gathering in the Philippine Islands, a territory as large as Nevada and Connecticut combined, comprising 115,000 square miles with a population of 8,460,652, representing an investment of \$20,000,000, an old battleship or two, and the lives of about 1,000 unemployed American workmen in soldiers uniforms.

The Filipinos took the hypocritical American's professions of good will and democracy at their face value and under the leadership of Aguinaldo, (who with his native troops actually captured Manila for the U. S.) proclaimed the Filipino Republic. Here for the first time American Imperialism showed its teeth and claws, and for more than two years hunted and murdered these unarmed and naked natives, in the most approved European fashion.

Cuba was given an American protectorate, under which the American Sugar, Tobacco, and United Fruit Companies exploit the Cuban workers to the limit of their endurance; strikes being mercilessly suppressed with the aid of the American Navy and U. S. Marines.

Revolutions and disturbances in Mexico and Central America are fostered and financed by Wall Street and its agent the United States Federal Government and made the occasion for intervention by the naval and military forces of the U. S., resulting in forced franchises and concessions to American Capitalists and bankers, in the natural resources of these fertile lands.

The howl for intervention in Mexico and the invasion of Mexican territory by American troops, is common knowledge. Mexico furnishes one of the best examples of the nature of American Imperialism, its purposes, and its modus operandi. The N. Y. Times estimates the original cash invested by American capitalists in Mexico, at \$550,000,000. This investment of \$550,000,000, says the Times, "had grown in value until in 1910 it was said to be worth \$2,000,000,000." In other words \$6.50 cash investment after paying fabulously large dividends, had increased in a few years to a cash investment of \$20.00, or over 200 per cent. The American exploiters of Mexican labor and natural resources have thus reaped \$1,350,000,000, upon which they intend to realize. These figures are for the year 1910; what are these properties worth today?

The combined holdings of foreign companies in the oil producing lands in Mexico total 5,436,271 acres, of which the Standard Oil Company owns 906,922 acres and 291 American concerns hold 1,259,207 acres. The Mexican Secretary of Industry and Commerce reported that during the year 1918 the value of oil exported from Mexico was \$140,557,513.20. The value and extent of the copper, gold, silver, and other mineral deposits in Mexico is enormous. The value of the crops of sisal, (the raw material from which twine is made) tobacco, indigo, and other agricultural products,

is inestimable. There are 15,000,000 Mexican wage slaves, recently freed from peonage, who can be exploited at low wages.

Every revolution in Mexico, in recent years, has been engineered and financed, on one side or the other, by American capitalists. Carranza offended the American financial interests by his slogan of "Mexico for the Mexicans", and he was promptly deposed and murdered, as was Madero before him. The Capitalist Government of the United States will tolerate a government in Mexico which will obey orders from Wall Street and Washington, otherwise they will invade and conquer Mexico.

By far the greater part of the populations of the present areas of direct exploitation by American Capitalist-Imperialism, are dark-skinned peoples; Malay, Indian, and Negroes. How Capitalist America, the boasted "land of the free and home of the brave", the reputed haven of refuge for the oppressed of all the earth, the hypocritical defenders of the rights of small nations, the advocates of world democracy,—how these sanctimonious snobs these political perverts, the money mad rulers of America treat the 13,000,000 negroes within the territorial boundaries of the United States a matter of international notoriety. What kind of treatment the dusky natives of the small nearby republics, helpless and unarmed, may expect at the hands of their white American Capitalist masters, may be inferred from the following authentic event, which is only one of thousands of recorded cases of frequent occurrence. The Jackson News (Mississippi) ran the following in large headlines on June 26th, last.

"JOHN HARTFIELD WILL BE LYNCHED BY ELLISVILLE MOB AT 5 O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON."

And under this head; "A committee of Ellisville citizens has been appointed to make the necessary arrangements, for the event and the mob is pledged to act in conformity with these arrangements".

The New Orleans State on the same date ran as a headline covering this scheduled lynching:

"NEGRO SULLEN AND JERKY AS BURNING HOUR NEARS"; and under it the information that, "The officers have agreed to turn him over to the people at 4 o'clock, when it is expected he WILL BE BURNED"

Not one of the "committee appointed to make the necessary arrangements" and to whom known officers of the law deliberately handed over a native born American citizen to be BURNED ALIVE, has ever been apprehended nor was there so much as an investigation ordered by the United States Government.

"Law and Order" is the slogan always raised whenever the property interests of the capitalists are threatened. "Law and Order" is the cry raised by their prostitute press and politicians whenever they propose a raid upon the resources and wealth of neighboring countries. In the posture of outraged virtue and righteous indignation they call upon the supine and duped working class of the United States to avenge the death of some American entrepreneur while engaged in robbing the helpless peons of a neighboring republic.

To further the interests of American Imperialism and world trade the American Government projected the Panama Canal which ran across the territory of the United States of Columbia. Under the administration of Roosevelt, the American Government fomented and staged a "revolution" against Columbia, in the isthmian region, and created the Republic of Panama, which is completely under the control of Washington.

The small States of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador, and Costa Rica, in Central America, are exploited by the United Fruit Co., the coffee, and other interests, and are practically protectorates of the United States, policed by the U. S. Marine Corps and menaced by the guns of the American Navy. The elections for president is at this writing being carried on, in Nicaragua, under the guns of the Marine Corps, and the "election" of a candidate acceptable to the interests engaged in exploiting that country is assured, and if by accident any other were victorious there will be a "revolution" in Nicaragua.

Porto Rico has witnessed a bloody conflict between its dusky wage slaves and U. S. Marines, and is a colony of the U. S. without the rights even of a territory.

Santo Domingo has been reduced to a dependency and its neighbor the Republic of Haiti is in process of reduction. What is happening now in that Negro Republic illustrates the brutality, chicanery, and hypocrisy of American Imperialism.

The pretext upon which the United States invaded Haiti in 1915 was the removal of a man from the sanctuary he claimed in the French legation. Upon the pretense of safeguarding foreign legations and consulates in Haiti, against violence, and to prevent a hypothetical contingency in which some foreign power might seize and hold Haiti as a base for naval action against the United States and the Panama Canal, this country sent a force of marines to occupy and hold

Haiti. That was in 1915. The Americans are still there.

All during the World War while American the rape of little Belgium and to protect the working men were called upon to avenge rights of small nations and to make the working men were called upon to avenge compelled the little Negro Republic of Haiti, with a population of a little over two million to sign a convention empowering the U. S. to administer Haitian Customs and finance for a period of twenty years, or as much longer as the U. S. sees fit, and have forced the Haitian Republic to adopt a constitution written in the U. S., removing the disability of an alien owning land in Haiti, thus opening the way for American capitalist to purchase or grab the most fertile land on the island. Military camps were established everywhere; the property of natives taken for military use; Haitians caught carrying a gun or other weapon were summarily shot; machine guns were turned on crowds of unarmed natives; men, women, and children to the number of 3000 were shot and killed, while in the five years of occupation and massacre, less than twenty Americans were killed in action.

As a result of this reign of terror the National Bank of Haiti is now owned by the National City Bank of New York, which issues all Haitian currency; the national railways of Haiti are owned by American capitalists, who also control all sugar mills and lighting and power plants. Groups of American capitalists are buying at their own price, the most fertile land in the island, one company already owning more than 68,000 acres.

All this diplomacy is of the most secret nature. None of the acts of this military despotism are ever reviewed by the Congress of the U. S. The Secretary of the Navy the Secretary of State, who are the creatures and appointees of the President of the U. S. in collusion with bank presidents and the heads of great capitalist enterprises, use the army and the navy in furtherance of their nefarious schemes. The strictest censorship is maintained over the press on news, the capitalist press printing inspired articles about Mexico, Haiti, etc., calculated to arouse the prejudice and hatred of the American workers. When in sheer desperation the exploited and persecuted natives turn upon an American capitalist or his agent, the cry goes up to avenge the death of American citizens and to uphold the honor of the flag.

In its designs upon China and trade in the Far East, American Imperialism finds its way blocked by a powerful rival, the Japanese, with whom in the near future they will lock horns in a contest to decide which shall have the exclusive right to exploit the peoples of the Orient. While the American capitalist dictatorship is enlarging its army and navy in preparation for this contest, it is quietly absorbing the wealth and labor of the peoples of the nearby islands and contiguous states in the Western Hemisphere and closing its grip on their territories.

Capitalist America is entering its last and final stage. Bursting with wealth, the stolen products of the workers' toil, it is compelled to find ever wider markets in which to unload their loot, together with new sources of raw material for their factories.

In the meantime the Communist Party of America, is training and disciplining a revolutionary class conscious vanguard of the working class in whom the American capitalists and their government in Washington recognize their mortal enemy. Driven to desperation in their struggle for bread the American workers will rally to the standard of the Communists in that period when capitalism will collapse as the result of its own inherent contradictions and with arms in their hands will overthrow and destroy the Capitalist State and in its place will establish the dictatorship of the proletariat based upon and acting through Soviet power. It may be that Capitalist Imperialism in America will be the last of the great capitalist states to succumb to the iron battalions of the working class that its death throes may be furious and bloody, the final act of the world wide revolution which will bring into being the World Republic of Labor thus ending forever the exploitation of labor, domestic or foreign, preliminary to the introduction of the free Communist society, in which both the state and classes will disappear, and work will be carried on and wealth distributed for the common good.

President Johnson of the Machinists Union, S. P. labor faker, was accused in the Machinists Convention of having caused the arrest and search of radical delegates by the Department of Justice. Johnson's war record and his betrayal of the Bridgeport Machinists, makes him quite capable of such an act despite his denial. Stedman, Germer, Berger & Co. also denied responsibility for the presence of Chief of Police Garrity of Chicago at the famous S. P. Convention in 1919. The workers of this country may expect the same treatment at the hands of these traitors as the workers of Germany received at the hands of Ebert and Noske.