

## Soviet Russia and the World Revolution.

A little more than six years ago the great guns of the German imperialists were booming against the granite walls of Liege. Germany had invaded Belgium; the world war was on, and capitalism had signed its own death warrant and sealed it in the blood and tears of thirteen million of its slaves. The world had grown too small for two imperialisms to batten upon. The German and Anglo-French capitalist-imperialists were locked in a bloody death grip which was to embrace every exploiting capitalist nation in the world on either side. They fondly imagine that this war was to determine the financial supremacy of the earth, the redistribution of the colonies, the suppression of the small nationalities, the conquest of territory and world trade on the one hand, and to save the already tottering capitalist regime by dividing and deceiving the workers in the various countries, and by drowning their protests in their own blood.

In this deception these bloody imperialists were aided by all the Eberts, Scheidemanns and Legiens in Germany, the Hendersons in England, the Renaudels, Guesdes and Johaux in France, the Bissolatis, Vanderveldes, Brantings Plekhanovs, Hillquits, Gompers, and other leaders of the majority socialist parties connected with the Second International. These social-patriots and traitors to the working class, many of whom accepted ministerial posts, deserted to the bourgeoisie at the beginning of the imperialistic war. They denounced the Basle Manifesto which declare that "such a war could not be justified on the ground of national defense" while singing the praises of their own bourgeoisie, deceived and disunited the working class of the various countries. It was under these circumstances that the second international broke down and the workers, deserted by their leaders, were driven to war against each other, until after four years of continuous warfare the world became one bloody congealed mass.

The history of the world is a history of class struggles, and the world war, while temporarily repressing the class conflict, but served to sharpen and intensify the struggle of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie and transform it into a civil war between two irreconcilable and hostile classes.

This struggle, which prior to 1914 and under the leadership of the second international, was of a defensive nature and concerned itself chiefly with measures of political reform and economic amelioration, must henceforth take on the character of offensive class warfare, mass action culminating in armed insurrection and civil war for the overthrow of the Capitalist State and the conquest of political power by the working class.

The bourgeoisie could not long delay the coming of a revolutionary crisis produced by the war. And it was natural that this crisis should first occur in Russia. A whole series of serious military defeats inflicted upon the Russian armies disorganized the mechanism of its antiquated government. By 1917 the incompetence and corruption of the Czarist regime, together with the court scandals associated with the name of Rasputin opened the eyes of the Russian masses as to the true nature of the autocracy.

As early as November 1914, the Bolsheviks (now the Communist Party of Russia) had issued a declaration urging "the conversion of the imperialistic war into a civil war against the oppressors and for socialism". On March 12, 1917 the masses in Petrograd poured into the streets and smashed the powers that had ruled Russia for centuries—the assassins who bathed Russia in the blood of the Jews, the workers, and revolutionists. These workers had behind them the lessons and experiences of the revolutionary period 1905-07—three years of revolutionary struggle which called millions of Russian workers and peasants to political life and revealed all the classes, and the parties which represent them, in their true character, exposing their immediate interests and ultimate objects. For twenty years the Bolsheviks had carried on

an unceasing propaganda expressing their devotion to the revolution and the working class, not only in words, but in deeds. For twenty years the Bolsheviks had been perfecting and building a highly centralized, disciplined, under ground political organization—the revolutionary vanguard of class conscious workers. This organization, now the Communist Party of Russia, developed the incomparable leadership of Lenin, Kamenev, Trotsky, Zinoviev, Bucharin, and others whose names were hardly known outside of Russia before 1917.

The revolution once started in Russia swept on with irresistible power. Upon the overthrow of the Czar, the imperialistic bourgeoisie led by Milyukov, Guchkov, Rodzianko and Lvov, and backed by Anglo-French finance-capital, sought to use the revolution for their own predatory purposes but the workers under the influence of the Bolsheviks swept them from power. Meanwhile, as in 1905, the Soviets were rising everywhere in Russia, in every city and province the Bolsheviks were organizing the Councils of Workers', Soldiers and Peasants Delegates, in the Army and throughout the country. The capitalists of Russia threw themselves into the arms of the Mensheviks, the social-patriots, and yellow "Socialist" traitors of Russia, who, with Kerensky at their head formed a Coalition Government, into which the yellow "Socialists" Tscheidsi, Skobelev, Tstretelli, and others joined with the Cadets to betray the Russian Revolution.

There can be no coalition between the working class and the capitalists' class. Lenin immediately raised the slogan of, "All power to the Soviets". The Bolsheviks demanded immediate peace, the publication of the secret treaties concluded between the Czar and the Entente, and the immediate seizure of the land by the poorer peasants through the Soviets, etc. Kerensky conspired with General Korniloff to overthrow the Soviets. Korniloff marched on Petrograd and the Red Guards defeated the first attempt at armed counter-revolution.

The effect of the Korniloff rebellion was electric. The Bolsheviks won the ascendancy in the soviets everywhere. The Petrograd Soviet called for the convening of the All-Russian Congress of Soviets. Counter-revolutionary plots were being hatched. It was a contest between the old outworn form of the bourgeois class and its hypocritical pretense of democracy, and the new form of working class political power, the dictatorship of the proletariat, in the form of soviet power. On October 27, Kerensky ordered the entire Petrograd garrison to the front. These soldiers were Bolsheviks to the last man. They refused to obey and instead organized the famous Military Revolutionary Committee. Lenin demanded the immediate overthrow of the Provisional Government by the armed insurrection of the masses, arguing that procrastination would be equivalent to death. On November 6-7 the revolutionary masses rose led by the Bolsheviks and the compromising Provisional Government fell like a house of cards.

This proletarian revolution annihilated the fake bourgeois "Socialist" republic, was not an arbitrary seizure of power. It was the outcome of an historical development. It was the successful carrying out of the historic mission of the working class. It was the first act of the world-wide proletarian revolution which will sweep into oblivion the whole capitalist system of exploitation and class rule, which will destroy the capitalist state, and under the Dictatorship of the Proletariat based upon Soviet Power, will crush out the last vestiges of wage slavery and private property, and usher in the Communist Society—the free association of workers carrying on production for the common good of all mankind.

It is not the purpose of this article to give a detailed account of the glorious achievements of the Russian Revolutionary Proletariat. Betrayed by the German "socialists" of the Scheidemann type and forced to sign the Brest Litovsk Treaty—the peace of Tilsit inheriting an economic system

wrecked by four years of continual war, sabotaged by the bourgeoisie and "chinovniks", forced to immediately organize a new working class red army to meet the simultaneous attacks of the Checko-Slovak troops marching upon them from Siberia, the Americans and English along the Murmansk coast, the Japanese in Vladivostok the French in the Crimea and the Don, blockaded and hemmed in on all sides, the glorious Red Armies of Soviet Russia, have met and successively defeated the counter-revolutionary troops of Kaledine, Kolchak, Semenov, Denikine, Yudenitch, one after the other, notwithstanding the fact that every one of these Czarist Generals were supplied and equipped with tons of war materials, by England, France, and the United States. Soviet Russia has been forced to defend itself against the attacks of all its neighbors, who are spurred on and support by Anglo-French-American Imperialism;—Finland, Lithuania, Esthonia, Ukraina, Roumania, and latterly Poland. The indomitable Red Proletarian Armies of Soviet Russia has met all, defeated them, and forced them to sign treaties of peace.

Soviet Russia, under the guidance and control of the Communist Party of Russia, and the genius of its incomparable leaders, Lenin, Trotsky, Zinoviev, Chicherin, Radek, Bukharin, Kamenev, and hundreds of others, has spread its liberating propaganda to every country in the world, in all the languages of all the races and nations of mankind. It has awakened and quickened into life the age-old dreams of brotherhood in the hearts of the peoples of the Orient; the Chinese, the Koreans, the Persians. It has inspired the Hindoos, the Turks, the Georgians, the Egyptians, the Arabs, the Afganians, to shake off the chains riveted upon their necks by English and French Imperialism. Soviet Russia has set the East in flames,—flames drawn from the holy fires of proletarian freedom.

And in the West, the workingmen and women of Germany, France, England, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Serbia, Holland, Scandinavia, Belgium, Spain, Ireland, in fact all the countries of Europe, enabled and enlightened by the heroic sacrifices and solidarity of their Russian brothers, have refused to fight Soviet Russia, have refused to support their capitalist governments in their attempts to destroy Soviet Russia, so that to-day no government in Europe dares to declare open war on Russia, but are compelled to carry out their black conspiracies in the dark and under cover.

In far off Australia and South Africa the influence of the Russian workers is having its affect, and the workers of those countries are responding to the call for world wide proletarian revolution.

In Mexico and South America the Bolsheviks are considered the liberators of the proletariat of those exploited countries, who are far along the road to working class emancipation, waiting for their brothers in the North to join them.

Even in the reactionary United States and Canada, the very name of the Bolsheviks throws the American Capitalists into a frenzy of fear. The American working class is being rudely awakened from its dream of liberty and equality under the bourgeois democratic government of Capitalist America. Already the Red Dawn in Russia is throwing its rays across the black night of reaction in the United States, illuminating the almost hopeless slavery of the American masses.

Lenin, the Russian Bolshevik, once said to the English Premier, Lloyd George, "I Command more men in England than you do", and he could truthfully say, as the foremost theoretician of the Third Communist International, and the respected revolutionary leader of the world's proletariat, that he commands more men than all the kings, crowned and uncrowned, potentates presidents and capitalist politicians put together.

Soviet Russia in the three years of its existence has torn the mask from the face of every yellow "socialist" traitor and left them naked to the gaze of their deluded followers. Soviet Russia has been the acid test for all petty bourgeois reformers,

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