

# The International Movement

## Russia—and the New Revolution

THE advent of the revolutionary proletariat in Germany and Austria has immeasurably strengthened the power of the Soviets in Russia. The Bolsheviki have greatly contributed to the coming of the new revolution not only by their ideas, not only by the force of their wonderful accomplishments in Russia, but by the wide use of Russian Bolshevik agitators in Germany and Austria. While the Brest-Litovsk peace negotiations were going on, the Bolsheviki waged a tremendous revolutionary propaganda among the German troops; after peace was concluded, this propaganda continued and spread into Germany itself, the centre being Bolshevik Ambassador Joffe in Berlin, who co-operated with Rosa Luxemburg, Franz Mehring and other revolutionary Socialists. Upon the outbreak of the revolutionary crisis in Austria, N. I. Bucharin, editor of the Moscow "Social Democrat" and an influential Bolshevik, departed for Vienna. Upon his departure Bucharin declared: "We have to share our knowledge with the West European proletariat, whose movement has no leader or system or determined policy. In this we must help them." Bolshevik agents in Poland are developing a formidable revolutionary movement, the centre of which is Carl Redek.

The Soviet Government has organized a capable Socialist army, which an official of the old regime, recently arrived in Paris, was compelled to admit is a disciplined and effective instrument. The fourth All-Russian Soviet Congress, held in July, decided upon the organization of a large army. Some time later the Central Executive Committee adopted the following resolution: "The joint session of the Moscow Executive Committee and the Moscow Soviet approves the policy of the Soviet Government which constantly puts into practice the decisions of the fourth extraordinary All-Russian Congress. The joint session assumes that the main problem of the Soviets, under the prevailing conditions, is increased activity in the organization of a strong Soviet army, strengthening of all organizations which embrace the masses of workers and peasants, the strengthening of internal harmony and discipline in the ranks of these organizations. In the transitory period we are passing through, the Soviet Government must strengthen the dictatorship over the bourgeoisie. By harmonious and energetic work of all the comrades devoted to the task of completing the November Revolution, we will reach, in spite of all obstacles, the complete success of the world's Social Revolution."

## In Germany—Bolsheviki and Others

ROSA LUXEMBURG and Karl Liebknecht are working harmoniously in the great revolutionary struggle, emerging as dominating factors in the situation.

The international revolutionary Socialists in Bremen recently issued a pamphlet declaring that not only the Scheidemann majority Socialists, but also the Independent Socialists of the Haase type, are simply adepts in radical phrases while avoiding deeds; the Internationalists and Communists insist upon revolutionary action.

Prior to the revolutionary explosion, the masses were stirring into action, opposed by the union and "Socialist" bureaucrats. The Miners' Union issued an appeal to the workers in the Rhine coal basin calling upon them to be calm and not tolerate strike propaganda. The appeal declared that partial strikes had broken out in the industrial districts of Essen, threatening to spread to other regions.

The soldiers also were uneasy. On August 5, German soldiers at Reval disarmed themselves to show that they were tired of war. The telephone wires were cut, and at meetings held the same day speakers denounced war. The cry was: "Enough of bloodshed! We do not want to fight any longer!" Two hundred soldiers were arrested. At Felline, in Livonia, at the end of July, trouble started in the garrison, which thereupon received orders to place itself in readiness for the western front—an order never executed. Detachments sent to enforce the order joined the rebels, organized a joint meeting, ending with singing revolutionary songs. After the meeting, the soldiers marched to the railway station, divested themselves of all military insignia, and boarded the trains. Upon their arrival at the Meiskull depot, they met detachments coming from Perman and Weissenstein on their way to the western front. After a meeting, the new soldiers divested themselves of military insignia and dispersed with

cries: "Enough of war! Bread and peace!"

Incidents of this sort, together with the mass action of the industrial workers, brought the revolution, in spite of the conservative union bureaucracy and Socialists. Now that the revolution is on, the conservative Socialists want "unity." The Berlin "Vorwaerts" means that the Revolution requires Socialist unity, but that the radicals are breaking the unity. The "Vorwaerts" unity means counter-revolution; there will be unity—after revolutionary Socialism conquers.

## The Ideal Soldier

In No. 80 of "Suom-Finland," a paper of German imperialist propaganda published at Helsingfors Finland, there is an article on "The Ideal Soldier," which characterises the ideal of German militarism and of that German-maintained government of Finland which public opinion among the Allies has greeted:

"An impassable gulf separates the soldier, particularly the recruit, from his officers. The last are always right; a recruit—never!

"The soldier must obey the orders of his superior. He must execute them blindly, without thinking.

"The soldier must not even desire to act independently since he is subjected to the will of his superior. The soldier must think, nor speak, because he is obliged to act upon orders of his superior.

"A young soldier is not a man; it is only through the orders of his superior that he becomes a human being.

"Like a worm he must remain in the dust and listen to the whistling of the whip over his head. It is only after weeks and months that the grace of his superior raises a recruit from the dust, washes him, dresses him and transforms him into a man and a soldier.

"The superior of the soldier is a magic mirror, his image must not reveal any vices.

"The superior is a god to the soldier; a god to whom he is not obliged to pray, but whom he must respect and whose divine orders he must execute.

"The god of the soldier is never content and never thankful for accomplished deeds. But he severely punishes insubordination.

"Because the hands of the soldier's superior holds the key to the earthly hell."

This is not satire, but serious propaganda. It

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Bookshop, Chicago: "Received your ten copies, and sold them in as many seconds. Send fifty more immediately."

Ellis O. Jones, New York: "I just got hold of Vol. 1, No. 2, of The Revolutionary Age. I like its tone, its spirit and its contents. There should be tremendous demand for just this sort of thing. We must steer a straight course at this critical time. I am going to mention your paper in a speech which I am making tomorrow night before the I. S. S. I am going to hold it up as a concrete example of the kind of thing we need and the kind of thing we will get in American journalism. If there is anything I can do for you, let me know."

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## The British Preparing

THE British Labor Party has broken with the government and the ruling vote of 1,844,000 to 891,000. The ultra forces declared that severing relations with the government would prove a calamity for the party. The congress adopted a resolution for the release of John MacLean and other political prisoners, including Conscience Jackson. MacLean is a thoroughly revolutionary Socialist, and in 1915 was sentenced to imprisonment for revolutionary activity during the war; he has been praised by Lenin in the spring of 1918 was appointed Consul for the Government in Glasgow. MacLean is a candidate of the Labor Party for Parliament in the Glasgow district. His constituents have refused to accept the candidature of "Minister" Barnes, one of the labor department of the coalition government of Lloyd George.

The Labor Party enters the coming year with a characteristic opportunistic and reform program, incapable of rallying revolutionary masses.

The Independent Labor Party's National Council (the I. L. P. policy approximates the policy of the Independent Socialists) has passed a resolution congratulating the German Social Democracy upon the brilliant and bloodless revolution. The resolution states that a Socialist government has been formed and welcomes the agreement between the two sections of the German Socialist Party. This is characteristic of the I. L. P.'s policy: why not congratulate the Socialists? Before the proletarian revolution conquers in Germany, it must sweep "unity of the sections" praised by the

At a conference in London a scheme for the prevention of strikes in shipyards was adopted by the Shipbuilding Federation and the representatives of unions concerned.

## The Belgian Reaction Revealed

THE Belgian Socialist Party received a manifesto in which it energetically demanded that the Belgian people not allow the war to develop into a war of aggression and that they demand parliamentary control over the government.

This flicker of independence has perished too late. Belgian imperialists have just launched a campaign for the annexation of Dutch territory, the left bank of the River.

Even the social-patriotic Socialists should now realize that the imperialists have swindled them. They will yet be swept by the righteous wrath of the Belgian people.

The Belgian Socialists, and others, at the immediate convocation of an International Congress, What sort of Congress will be the "international" social-patriotic Vandervelde, Henderson, Thomas, Schreier, Renaudel, Maslov, Branting and Trotsky a Congress of revolutionary Socialists, Lenin, Trotzky, Loriot, Lazzari, the active internationalists?

## The Development in France

THE news that the international revolutionary movement allows to come from France concerns the representatives of the masses and not the bourgeoisie. That there is a proletarian mass movement developing, is a certainty. The French proletariat, as well as the proletariat of Italy, is capable of great things.

The reactionary Socialists Deputies appealed to Premier Clemenceau for "Socialist representation at the Peace Conference." Clemenceau has graciously promised to take their appeal under consideration. Socialism has scored a victory!

The renegade Gustav Herve, editor of "Le Peuple," formerly "La Guerre Sociale," was recently expelled from the party. Herve is a violent social-patriot; his attitude is infamous that it is not much of a credit to the party to kick him out. Now the job of the Augean stables should begin—the cleaning up of Thomas, Renaudel, Cachin, and the others, who have betrayed Socialism and the party, until recently, an ally of Imperialism.