

An Appeal to the Workers of the Allies

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(Translated by W. J. SIMS)

WE call to the workers of the Allied countries to bring pressure to bear on their governments not to crush and stifle the Russian revolution. At the time the armies of the Allies and the White Guard, supported by the Allied governments, began the attack on the Russian Soviet Government, they stated that it was necessary in the interests of France, and it was declared to be a blow at Germany. However, even at that time of the war those armies operated rather like allies of Germany. Though they were fighting separately from the German forces, their enemy was the same: the Russian revolution. The attack of the Allied forces prevented the Russian revolution from defending itself against the incoming German soldiers, and even took away the strength necessary for protecting the revolution from invasion.

These warring powers, which, in the course of the world war, shed the blood of many millions of proletarians in order to annihilate each other, together attacked the revolution of the Russian workers and peasants. From that day when the German people freed themselves from the yoke of the Kaiser and consented to an unconditional surrender to the conquerors, the war of the Allies on Russia could no longer be called a war against Germany. Therefore, the hirelings of the capitalist press have been busy piling up the most abominable accusations against the Russian revolution.

But if even German Imperialism had to fall, the masses of the people understood that it served the interests of the enslavers of the masses; and the military power of the entente nations will be too weak to dest-

roy the revolution, for the general awakening of the masses of the workers and soldiers will not permit them to come out in the role of executioner of freedom for the destruction of revolution.

In Bessarabia and Ukraine these armies have refused to become the unthinking instruments of oppression. In London and Paris the workers have also come out against the suppression of Russian freedom.

Workers of the Allied countries, do not believe your governments. They are deceiving you. Though they are sending no more troops to Russia, they are continuing the blockade.

They have established a regime of the most unbridled reaction in Poland, and, under their orders, the Polish working masses are being shot down. Your governments are supporting the Boyar (Junker) government in Rumania, and are making it possible for the military party in Finland to establish itself into a government.

Poles, Rumanians, Finns, Germans,—the reactionaries, the monarchists of Southern Russia and Siberia, living in wealth and luxury,—that is who is conducting a desperate struggle against Soviet Russia, cut off from the grain regions, deprived of the most necessary

provisions, and suffering from the torments of famine and unemployment.

The Allied governments call the Russian revolution the work of the dregs of humanity. They shamelessly declare that "these culprits must be summarily dealt with," and at the same time declare that they have abandoned all intention of intervention.

They wish to make the workers of their countries believe that they are hurrying aid to Russia in its misfortune by sending food. They would be willing to send their regiments against us, were they assured that the soldiers would not refuse to obey. They do not spare materials or ammunition in trying to help the most savage reaction and the most terrible monarchists and exploiters in their struggle against the revolution of the workers and peasants of Russia.

And these governments still wish to make us believe in their sincerity and they do not reveal their perfidy to the workers of their countries.

Workers of the entente nations! The workers and peasants of Russia will not lay down their arms while the enemy is not driven from their territory. They are not afraid of any sacrifices, they will bear the pangs of hunger and want with unshaken bravery, and they ask you not to weaken the pressure on your governments until you make them abstain from any direct or indirect attempt at attacking the Russian revolution.

Make your governments stop their infernal game and treacherous attempts. Let them not crush the freedom of the Russian workers and peasants.

The Crisis—Capitalism in Collapse

By B. G.

THE censorship during the war directed its efforts to presenting in a rosy light the terrible situation in Europe. Every attempt to pierce through the lies to the facts and indicate the approaching catastrophe was mercilessly suppressed by a war government. No wonder, then, now that war is over, the capitalists of the United States are becoming alarmed. It seemed sufficient to them that Germany sign the peace treaty of the Allies, and again there would begin, as of old, the struggle between the capitalists of different nations for the markets of the world. The only difference they conceived was that Germany would be eliminated from the competitors, would not be a serious interfering factor in the struggle between the capitalists of France, England, Italy, Japan and the United States. The dread of being forced out of the world's markets haunted the American capitalists; and as soon as the armistice was signed, Europe was flooded by an army of American capitalists and financiers eager to "study conditions" and prepare for the future.

What these American financiers and capitalists saw in Europe was not exactly what they had expected. The war has so dislocated the industrial life of Europe, that it will not be able to become "normal" again without the aid of the United States. This aspect of the problem was recently considered in a speech by Frank A. Vanderlip, head of the National City Bank, a nerve-centre of American Imperialism. Mr. Vanderlip, who just returned from Europe and spoke before the plutocratic Economic Club, began by pointing out that his pessimism is based on facts secured while in Europe. He was all over Europe, met the ministers of finance of almost every European country and other public men, and his facts and observations are undeniable.

The essence of Mr. Vanderlip's speech, which is worthy of analysis, may be summarized thus: "We must save Europe from a catastrophe, otherwise it may reach us." The factors producing this catastrophe, according to this American financier, are three: 1) financial disorganization; 2) dislocation of transport; 3) the labor problem.

The war has produced a larger output of printing machinery, and this machinery is working feverishly producing paper currency. The result is that even such a powerful country, financially, as Great Britain has one-and-one-half milliards of paper currency as against the 28 million pounds of sterling in gold. In other words, Britain has 54 credit-paper bonds for every pound sterling in gold (about five dollars.) In France the amount of paper currency during the war increased from 6 milliard francs to 36 milliards, that is, 6 times as much. The circumstance that the paper bonds are not guaranteed by a sufficient amount of gold tender results in depreciation of the value of money. European money is falling heavily in value on the world's stock exchanges. The influence of this depreciation is felt particularly in foreign trade transactions, when a franc or pound sterling does not circulate according to its nominal value but on the basis of a fluctuating rate of exchange.

There is no hope that Europe can exist without foreign trade. Europe needs machinery to start production and food products to feed the people, all of which is at this moment available only outside of

Europe. Even as concerns bread Europe cannot get along on its own supply. Rumania, which before the war exported a million bushels of wheat, now can scarcely feed its own people. The area of cultivated land in Poland has decreased one third; there are no horses or domestic cattle. People are taking the place of field horses in tilling the soil. There is a terrible scarcity of seeds.

But even if all the necessary products should come from other side of the ocean, they would scarcely get beyond the ports, since all the transportation systems are demoralized. There are not sufficient locomotives, wagons and horses to move merchandise from the railway stations to the interior of the country. The neces-

The Yellow Streak

DIFFERENCES of opinion and outlook do not make some persons "red" and others "yellow." But it becomes pardonable to characterize that Socialism as "yellow" which uses the name and language of Socialism in assaults upon the revolutionary proletariat. It is an attribute of "Yellow Socialism" also to intensify its own eminent respectability by outdoing the regular capitalist editors in reviling the Socialism which looks to proletarian mass assertion for its results, not to liberalistic intercession.

The Chicago *Herald and Examiner* of June 3rd carried an interview with Seymour Stedman, member of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, in connection with alleged bomb explosions. "I am very, very glad we expelled the extreme radicals of the Left Wing from the Socialist Party a week ago. Their attitude and their actions bring disrepute upon all Socialists who believe in orderly political action and are opposed to violence. . . . There are a great many foreigners in the Left Wing who do not understand our political machinery or our political and economic methods. Some of them I do not trust at all. They are not citizens, they cannot vote, and their ideas of what action to take are not our ideas at all. . . . I am very sure these things have not been done by any true Socialists of the type with which I am associated."

Making all due reservation for inaccuracy of quotation, the fact that Stedman would choose such an occasion for furnishing the capitalist press with the foregoing copy, and with a disavowal of Bolshevism, constitutes a cowardly, dastardly attack on many thousands whom Stedman has heretofore greeted as "comrades." There is the repeated innuendo that these alleged bomb explosions might be related to the activities of the Left Wing—not to "real Socialists" of the Stedman variety.

This is the yellow streak with a vengeance. It out-Bergers Berger. Stedman must be presumed to know the gulf between Marxian Socialism and individualistic Anarchism; between the tactic of terrorism and the tactic of mass action. Either his ignorance is abysmal, or his cowardice. Let him make the choice.

sary materials must be obtained outside Europe, and only then can Europe get on its feet again. All this would be but half the trouble, if there had not occurred a sharp change in the disposition of large masses of the people. War has lowered the people's morale. This is particularly true in Belgium, where during the four and a half years of the war a considerable part of the population was forced to go idle. In Belgium alone 800,000 men receive allowances from the unemployment fund.

And the situation is no better in England. There a million workers receive allowances from the unemployment fund. "In England, in accordance with the data of the capitalists, there is a minority, from ten to fifteen per cent of the population, which says that the right of private property must be abolished. This minority stands for Communism. Such an easily combustible material can be found in all countries. Leave these social elements without defense, leave them idle and hungry, and the result will be such a social break-up which may become a plague, a source of contamination."

Unemployment in Italy is so great that the government is afraid to demobilize the army, not knowing where to find work for those it may discharge. And in neutral countries the situation is far from being normal. Take Spain, for example, where Bolshevism has secured such a footing that it dictates the policy of the Spanish government and the political attitude of different papers.

In short, the whole of Europe is a seething volcano, which may at any moment sweep the fiery lava of revolution over Europe and the world. Unemployment and hunger may "bring into action such forces as will prove more destructive and devastating than the war." And Mr. Vanderlip is right. The war has opened the eyes of even the most backward workers. What benefit is it if the wages rose twice and even thrice, if this means all the same a half-starved existence and large unemployment?

These are the facts. Shall we wonder, then, that the workers attempt to reconstruct modern society on entirely new foundations?

In order to stave off the ever growing revolutionary movement, Mr. Vanderlip proposes that the American capitalists should go to the help of their European brethren, open unlimited credits, demanding no guarantees and disregarding the hope of receiving payment in the near future. Only in this way, according to the financier, will the American capitalists save the European capitalists—and themselves.

It is doubtful if the American capitalists will prove sufficiently farsighted and adopt Mr. Vanderlip's proposal. But even this proposal would not save the situation. The "10-15% of the discontented, the Communists, are coming, as a matter of fact, to comprise the majority of the people. On no account will they allow the former social structure, with its ruthless exploitation, slavery and misery, to be restored. Degeneration, starvation, misery and destruction are inevitable accompaniments of Capitalism. The Socialist prophecy that the war would signalize the end of Capitalism seems being realized. To Communism—the world and the future!