The Revolutionary Age

A Chronicle and Interpretation of International Events

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Aggression Against Mexico

CONDITIONS are being developed which may mean American intervention in Mexico. International capital, particularly American finance-capital, is using all its resources to bring about a state of affairs providing the pretext for intervention.

It is the oil wells of Mexico, particularly, and its other natural resources generally, which are beckoning foreign capital to the conquest of this devastated country.

The Peace Conference has said, in so many words, that Mexico is legitimate prey. Its recognition of the American Monroe Doctrine—an imperialistic doctrine for the aggrandizement of United States capital on the American continents—indicated the general policy; and the exclusion of Mexico from membership in the League of Nations is proof positive of the intention.

Counter-revolutionary generals are financed by banks; bandits in Mexico are supplied with funds and munitions,—all in order to create that "anarchy" which will then become the pretext for intervention,—to make Mexico safe for democracy and preserve civilization!

Workers will do the fighting. Workers will do the dving. Capital will reap the profits. War against Mexico is equally war against our own workers. This is the new world promised out of the war,—a world of depredation and oppression.

And what else did you expect? All expectations of progress and peace and liberty from Capitalism are illusions. Capitalism is predatory: Capitalism is oppression. Capitalism and Imperialism can assure only war and plunder and oppression. International revolutionary Socialism must become the proletarian answer to this international menace.

Expel the Party!

THE National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, overwhelmingly repudiated in the elections for a new N. E. C., is preparing new expulsions.

At the State Convention of the Party in Massachusetts, which adopted the Left Wing Manifesto and Program, a group of delegates seceded, led by two lawyers. They telegraphed Executive Secretary Germer, who thereupon telegraphed the N. E. C. members one of whom, James Oneal, thereupon made this motion:

"That the National Secretary secure documentary evidence, is such exists, of repudiation of party policy in Massachusetts, if obtained the National Secretary shall recognize that organization which supports the policy and principles formulated in national convention and by referendum."

Power to expel 6.000 members of the Party, accordingly, is placed in the hands of one man, the National Secretary. Two reactionary "Socialists," George H. Goebel and James F. Carey, both of whom were proceed; came to Boston, looked around, and went right home again. Massachusetts has no use for moderates.

The State Committee of Illinois—the citadel of reaction in the Party scens to be the hold-over Executive Committees, eleted a long time ago—is out with "constitutional" casuistry to set aside a completed revolution in the Chicago organization.—as if "constitutional" (mis) interpretation would affect the convictions of the revolutionary membership.

The State Committee orders a new county conference, with the seven suspended Federations eliminated, and with limitation to delegates who have been party members two years and one year in the local. Under the conditions of rapid change in the party membership, especially in Chicago, this is a perfect scheme for arranging a nice little conference of a small group of

old-timers who were repudiated completely by the Conference of May 17-18, now declared illegal.

The Left Wing elements of Chicago are not worried about this Tammany maneuvre, and are against particfipation in the "rump" conference. This probably means more expulsions.

But since the bulk of the Party is now Left Wing, the moderates must soon expel the whole party. Let them! They'll have a nice batch of expulsion orders, and revolutionary Socialism will have the Party.

Bulwark of Reaction

THE dominant fact emerging out of the convention of the American Federation of Labor is the apparent conclusion of "a temporary partnership between organized labor and the employing element for the suppression of Bolshevism, to accomplish which the former is conceded to be the best equipped" This is the declaration in a news story by Louis Seibold, appearing in the New York World of June 16.

This is not at all surprising,—except, perhaps, to the vellow Socialist who all these years has been buttressing the A. F. of L. as a misleader of labor. Two of these yellows—J. Mahlon Barnes and Max S. Hayes—are at the convention, still pursuing their miserable. role of equivocation. . . .

The A. F. of L. started as a movement to smash the old Knights of Labor, which in that day was a radical organization. It developed as a craft union organization of the worst sort, actually splitting up labor instead of uniting it. In all its years of supremacy, the A. F. of L. officially through its bureaucracy was the ally of Capitalism against Socialism and against militant labor, supporting Capitalism often while labor was engaged in a death struggle against the employing class. The A. F. of L. was an organization of "labor leaders," whom Mark Hanna designated as his "labor lieutenants." These labor lieutenants of the capitalist class, together with the aristocracy of labor, aspired to petty bourgeois case and status; and in the pursuit of this object made their offensive and defensive pact with Capitalism. The symbol of this pact was the National Civic Federation, where Samuel Gompers and other misleaders of labor wined and dined with the capitalist oppressors of the workers.

Out of this policy developed the A. F. of L. support of the reactionary war, the "labor leaders" accomplishing excellent service not alone in mobilizing labor for the war, but in preventing labor making "excessive" wage demands while the capitalists were making fabulous profits and hundreds of new millionaires created.

The social condition behind this co-operation of the A. F. of L. and Capitalism is comprised in "organized labor" consisting largely of the skilled workers, who dominate the other unions of unskilled labor, while the bulk of the proletariat is unorganized. The skilled workers occupy a sort of privileged status; they have been corrupted by Imperialism and receive a "share" in the spoils of Imperialism; in return for which "organized labor" protects Capitalism and crushes the revolutionary movements of the proletariat. This is the social condition, equally, that produces the savage war waged by the A. F. of L. upon the I. W. W., which represents the militant proletariat of unskilled labor.

The World states that the A. F. of L. "is conceded to be the best equipped" for waging the struggle against Bolshevism. Why? Bolshevism, that is to say, revolutionary Socialism, makes its appeal to labor, and capital must use "labor" in order to wage a successful campaign against Socialism. In the name of labor, accordingly, the A. F. of L. strikes at the heart of labor and protects Capitalism. Capitalism in the United States, class conscious and alert, is using "labor" to fight militant labor and maintain the supremacy of Capitalism.—precisely as was done in Russia, as is being done in Germany and England. Trades unionism everywhere, the aristocracy of labor, is corrupted by Imperialism, betrays the bulk of the proletariat to Capitalism.

It is the task of revolutionary Socialism to crush this "labor" bulwark of reaction, by co-operating with the militant elements of the A. F. of L. in the construction of a new labor movement of revolutionary industrial unionism.

The Labor Movement in Japan

By SEN KATAYAMA

A fine story of the militant Labor Movement in Japan, by a pioneer of Japanese Socialism. Indispensable to the International Socialist.

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The Russian Offensive

THE Allies are still at their miserable business o "making peace" while waging war against Sovie Russia,—a war that constitutes aggression agains the peace and liberty of the world.

In Paris, the Peace Conference has "recognized' the "Russian Government" of the Czarist Admira Kolchak.

In New York City, the offices of the Soviet Representative Martens have been raided and all paper seized, while Washington teems with rumors of deportation.

These two facts occurring almost simultaneously indicate a new offensive against the workers of Russia and equally against the workers of the world.

Soviet representative Martens, according to the licentreeois "law of nations," is covered by diplomatic immunity, even if not recognized. But the Allies apparently, decided to prevent German violation of the "law of nat one" only in order that they might freely violate it themselves.

There is dispute whether the Allies have actually "recognized" Kolchak as a government. But that is immaterial: the fact is that the Allies have now put in an official form the aid and co-operation they have rendered the reactionary forces of Admiral Kolchak in their war against the people of Russia. The Allies in fact. "recognized" the Czarist gangster Kolchak months ago, by providing him with moral encouragement, with arms, munitions, food, money. The Allies have been waging war against Soviet Russia since November 7, 1917.

Who is this Kolchak? What is his government? In March 1013, the British Government decided to create a "Provisional Government" in Siberia, with Admiral Folchak at its head, as the only dependable "strong" man in sight. There was an experiment with a "democratic government" at Archangel, but old man Tchai-kovsky could not "deliver the goods." The Allies acordingly, centred their support upon the reactionar "government" of Kolchak, which they organized and financed, while informing the world that it was the government of the "Russian people"!

Admiral Kolchak is a monarchist, a believer in "strong government." The Allies made a bluff of exacting "democratic guarantees" from Kolchak, but were met with the Admiral's determination to first crush the Bolsheviki, establish a strong autocratic government, imprison democracy, and then—call a Constituent Assembly!

The "government" of Kolchak would have been cosily crushed by the Russian people if it had not been for the Allies. It is the Allies who are waging the counter-revolutionary war against the Russian worker and peasants. The "recognition" of the Kolchak "gov ornment" comes at the moment that the "great offens ive" of the counter-revolution had collapsed, when the Soviet troops had re-captured Ufa, when it appeared if the Kolchak government was finally to be crushed. The Allies to the rescue!

But this new offensive against Soviet Russia comes, conally, at a moment when the masse of the Allies are about to protest. Italy and France are aflame with strikes: and tere is an intensive agitation for a political mass strike against intervention in Russia, a protest strike which its originators hope to produce in Italy, France and England simultaneously.

Moreover, the "recognition" of Kolchak, that murd erer of the people, comes at the moment when the revolutionary proletariat of Norway has decided to break the blockade of Russia, and accepted the Communist International.

This "recognition" comes, again, at the moment that the Soviet troops are conquering, when new revolution ary troops are being mobilized, preparing to make their juncture with the troops of Soviet Hungary.

In the United States, in spite of the reactionary A. F. of L. convention, the proletarian masses are against intervention, are developing a more intense sympathy for the cause of Soviet Russia, which is the cause of the workers of the world.

Soviet Russia has completely exposed the miserable "ideals" of the Allies. It has demonstrated that the Allies represent reaction, that they are strangling the peace and liberty of the peoples of the world. It is for the proletariat to capitalize this demonstration. It is for the proletariat, the natural ally of Soviet Russia to accept the task of preventing the strangling of the Russian Revolution. The system represented by the Allies, the system of Capitalism and Imperialism, is not simply the enemy of the workers of Russia; it is the enemy of the workers of the world. Peace and liberty cannot prevail as long as this system prevails.

It is the revolutionary task of the international proletariat to break the offensive of international Capitalism against Soviet Russia, which is an offensive against the peace and liberty of the workers of the world.