

## Here and There

**A**LTHOUGH many people are disappointed in the work of the Peace Conference, and particularly in the part played by Mr. Wilson, it ought not to be forgotten that he has made an important contribution to the cause of internationalism. When in 1916 Mr. Wilson sought re-election to the presidential chair, his managers hit upon a slogan that undoubtedly did much towards accomplishing the desired result. "He kept us out of war"—the boardings screamed. And the electorate who thought war was a pretty good thing to be kept out of, not having been bullied by the Espionage Act, the National Security League and the American Defense Society, promptly voted Mr. Wilson into office.

When the Germans had made up their minds that if they were beaten in the war they would be skinned alive and were preparing to continue fighting at all costs, Mr. Wilson wrote a note in which he mentioned fourteen points as a basis upon which peace might be concluded. The German people, like the American electorate of 1916, thinking that peace was a very desirable thing, provided it wasn't to be accompanied by the skinning process, promptly offered to conclude peace on these same fourteen points.

Today the Germans know exactly what the Americans who voted to be kept out of war felt like in April 1917, while these Americans have a pretty fair idea of how the Germans feel about signing the peace. And after all, what is internationalism but the ability of one people to understand and sympathize with the peoples of other countries?

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The bourgeois press is jubilant over what it terms "the failure of the Mooney strike." According to reports only a few thousand workers in Seattle, San Francisco, Detroit, Chicago and several other large centers have translated their words into action. The A. F. of L. is given due credit for the failure. However, all is not so rosy as the papers try to make it appear. There is a biblical story to the effect that if the Lord had been able to find one righteous person he would have saved the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. It appears that even at the lowest estimate there are several thousand workers in this country who are willing to undergo the rigors of a strike because they recognize the principle that "an injury to one is an injury to all" and this would work out at more than one for each city in the United States. At least the idea of striking for something else than a raise in wages has been widely propagated and the idea that the errors of capitalist "justice" can be corrected in the work-shop is gaining ground.

We understand that though Samuel Gompers feels that he has gained a victory, still he is not elated. Perhaps Sammy has heard the farmers say that one rotten apple will spoil a whole barrelful.

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The decision of the Allies that "it is impossible to make peace with the Hungarian Soviet Government" is noteworthy only insofar as it helps to clarify the issue between Imperialism and the world proletariat. After the debacle over the Russian question which ended in the evasion of the entire issue by the semi-recognition of Kolchak, which pleased nobody except a few monarchic adventurers, it began to appear that the Entente "statesmen" were incapable of handling the situation.

Adrift in the sea of revolution on the leaking craft of democracy, the Allied rulers have concentrated all their energies on trying to keep off the rocks of Soviet recognition only to find themselves caught in the shifting sands of defeated monarchy, consequently they have decided that they will semi-officially recognize their position while they turn their eyes towards dry land and pretend that they are quite safe. The rulers of the Entente went to Paris to make peace. Making peace naturally means coming to an understanding with the other nations of the earth. The people of the Entente countries expect that their rulers will arrive at such understanding. This was one of the reasons they made a deal with Kolchak; Kolchak can always be put forward as Russia to the masses who do not examine the situation carefully. But what is going to be done about Hungary? The Allies dare not recognize the Communists and so far no monarchist adventurer has set up a "government". So the "statesmen" must go home without recognizing Hungary at all, without coming to any understanding, without doing what they were sent to Paris for, without making peace.

They were unable to deal with Hungary—there is no peace. Some of the workers are bound to ask why. Surely there must be a Kolchak in Hungary to befuddle the issue, surely Bela Kun has not shot all the aspirants to the throne?

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The fourth of July could hardly be called a Glorious Fourth by the super-patriots. In Detroit, Boston, Seattle, Chicago, New York, in fact all over the country, the self-appointed guardians of the nation's safety were all fired up with a heroic sense of duty. They had been armed with nice new guns, bright badges and in some places they even went to the expense of buying lovely military looking uniforms, lots of the more dutiful, we are credibly informed, stayed up all night polishing the old hand grenades, oiling the trusty machine guns, and cranking the tanks; all for the purpose of wiping out the hated "reds" and out-bombing the "bomb plotters".

Early on the morning of the Fourth the tramp of marching men resounded all over the country. Orders were given, little bands of devoted heroes were marched out to protect the town clock, the village pump, the little red school-house and the bosses' works. The bursting of a Ford tire caused countless thousands to grasp their rifles tighter, while the explosion of a giant cracker threw machine gun companies in such a flurry of haste that they invariably jammed the belt. And at the end of the day not a single bomb burst throughout the length and breadth of the country. The "reds" didn't even attempt to set up so much as a village Soviet.

Taking it all in all, the Fourth was a failure from the American Defence Society point of view, and as a result the feeling is stronger than ever against the "reds". The revolution didn't take place and nobody is satisfied.

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**43 West 29th Street  
New York**

## Bolshevikjabs

**T**HE Fourth of July has come and gone and as far as we have heard nothing seems to have gone off except the usual number of fire-crackers—it's a good job the newspapers scared the bomb plotters. Or can the papers have erred?

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It seems as if the whole matter was a "put up job" to do the cops out of a holiday.

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And talking about the Fourth of July—Tom Mooney is still in jail.

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We were talking to an Irishman the other day who said he'd feel a lot surer of Irish Freedom if the A. F. of L. had got Mooney out of San Quentin.

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Now that the war is over humanity is becoming sane again, the world is sick of bloodshed—40,000 people paid enormous sums to see the Toledo prize fight.

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England is now demanding that the ex-Kaiser be tried—for loosing the war.

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Apparently poor old England hopes to keep the war feeling up long enough to get over the present revolutionary period. This is a bad sign. English diplomacy is losing its cunning else it would know that if trying the ex-Kaiser could avert revolution, there is really no need to try him.

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According to the newspapers Italy has cut the food prices in half as a result of the riots. Now the Italians know what to do; if a few riots bring down prices by fifty per cent what would a revolution do?

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It would appear to be about time that the Italian government started another rumpus about Fiume.

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If the Italians plump for the Soviets will they be German agents? Perhaps they'll just be "a bunch of dirty dagos" the same as they were before they got the coal.

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From reading the examination of some of the witnesses in the Henry Ford case it would appear that Clemenceau, Wilson, Jesus Christ and Tolstoy were all the same—but then the dead can't bring libel suits.

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Now that the first of July has gone we wonder who will expel the rest of the Socialist Party?

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It really was a piece of shortsightedness on the part of the old N. E. C. not to have expelled at least half of the remaining quarter of the organization before June 30.

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Bela Kun's wife arrived at the Swiss border with a large sum of money the other day but was not allowed to cross the frontier, according to a dispatch from Geneva. We are glad to see the Swiss taking a firm stand against the glob-trotting proclivities of the wives of Soviet ministers, but after all perhaps Mrs. Kun merely wanted to visit Trotzky's wife for the purpose of showing that her husband was doing pretty well also.