

Soviet Hungary's Task

By Joseph Pogany

People's Deputy to the Budapest Worker's Council--Address Delivered in the Council.

COMRADES! After the speeches of the various District Deputies, after the speeches of Comrades Kunfi, Kun and Boehm, there can be but one duty for all, for us who sit here, for you who sit there, and for all who stand behind us: To grasp our weapons and in a united body go to the front. Proletarian regiments have been organized; there should be proletarian regiments to protect the Hungarian Soviet Republic against all foes. Comrades! We do not desire to understand only one aspect of the problem. Here it is a question not of administration (that's so, that's so!) but of arms. And I am surprised that in this body any other point of view should find expression than that of relentless war. Now no one has the right to say anything only: "Go out to the fronts, or into the factories through which the troops at the front are sustained and supported." Otherwise we are at lost.

A Message to the Proletariat of the World.

The session today should be a great expression, a message of the first import to those of our proletarian brothers, who although on the other side of our borders, still view the offensive against us with the greatest horror. We must send them this message: "Comrades, Brothers! Stand fast! Comrades, Brothers! Strike, arise, arm yourselves and help us to victory. We do but emancipate you from foreign imperialists." (Applause.)

Our second message should be addressed to the proletariat who in the Rumanian, Czech, Serbian, and French armies serve the cause of their own oppressors, and to them we must cry out: "Brothers! You have a weapon in your hands and you wield it against us! Comrades, French, Czech, Rumanian and Serbian

proletarians and peasants: Do you not know that every shot you fire against the Hungarian Soviet Republic, is in reality fired at yourselves, against your well-being, against your own future, against your proletarian comrades, whose families you destroy?"

Message to the Hungarian Bourgeoisie

Also, Comrades, we must send a message to that Hungarian bourgeoisie who on the other side of the demarcation line seized the first moment to restore the capitalist system, who already dream of a kingdom, who have already raised the white flag with the inscription: "Long live the King!" (Strong exclamations: Destroy them! Fearful noise)

To them we must assert: "Tremble before our vengeance! We will return and this time wipe you off, not only as a class but also in fact to the last man, to the last counter-revolutionist. (Unceasing, deafening, spirited applause and approbation.)

Comrades! With a voice, resounding afar, do we send forth from here, out of this assembly the message to the Hungarian bourgeoisie at home, let them take notice that from today on we consider them as war hostages. Let them not rejoice, let them not place white flags in their windows, for with their own blood will we dye their flags red! (Stormy applause.)

In conclusion, however, Comrades, we must issue a message from this body to ourselves, to our proletarian comrades in the factories and outside in the villages. Openly, without circumlocution Comrade Kun has said in this

assembly that the Proletarian Revolution is in danger. We must save the Proletarian Fatherland! Everyone here is a blackguard and a betrayer, a worthless scamp, who, if he can be spared at home, does not go with us, all of us, to the front. This Workers' Council, this Soviet Government, would be without honor, if it should not immediately want to separate itself: One part to work at home, governing the central administration, the other to go to the front, leading our proletarian brothers out of the factories, from the fields to the front. (Stormy applause.)

The question is one of life or death, and we, Comrades, want life! This beautiful spring that blooms outside, is not here so that we vanish! We cling to life! We cling to that which we have attained, and to that upon which the fate of this country, of the entire proletariat rests. (Spirited hurrahs and applause.)

Comrades! We want to live! We do not want to collapse, and for this reason we give, for our class rule, for our proletarian dictatorship, for the world revolution, if necessary our very lives! (Continued applause.)

That is what we proclaim from out of this assemblage to every proletarian, every bourgeois, over our own borders, out to every Socialist and Workers party. Comrades, this spirit must gush forth from this assemblage. A single, unified, powerful call to all the world: we desire to live, we want to win, we will win! (Continued hurrahs and applause.)

(At the close of the meeting a resolution was carried that half the members of the Soviet Government, the Workers' Council, and half the general workers should go to the front.)

A Call to Blockade the Allies

FOR more than a century the blood-stained despotism of Russian Czarism has been the surest support of reaction in Europe, the surest obstacle to Socialism and revolution. After a heroic fight lasting for decades, the Russian proletariat has succeeded in overthrowing Czarism, and in carrying out the workers' revolution in its country. It has thus also paved the way for the workers of western Europe to become masters in their own house, for now no fear from Russia threatens the western European revolution from the back. This is the world historic situation which our great pioneers Marx and Engels expected for the social revolution.

Does the western European proletariat know how to make use of this order. Shameful to say conditions look very dark. International Capitalism is doing its utmost to suppress the Soviet power in Russia, to help reaction back into power in Russia, and thus again to build up the powerful support for western European Capitalism, and the workers of England, America and France, scarcely lift a finger in protest. They are permitting their capitalists to accomplish the deed most pregnant with evil in the history of the world, and they content themselves with the crumbs which these capitalist states' victories in the war are dealing out to their workers, crumbs that are cut from the already scanty bread of the workers in the vanquished nations, now being plundered.

If the capitalists succeed in this work, they have gained a victory without precedent. Im-

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perialism has succeeded in putting through the world war with impunity—in carrying out its terrible crime against humanity—and now stands before us stronger than ever. For it has as usual succeeded in slaying the international solidarity of the working class, in dividing the forces of its mortal enemy. The International does not consist of resolutions passed at Berne, or anywhere else, but means common action, a common battle waged by the proletariat of

all lands against a united world Imperialism. If the workers of the Entente countries, now desert this common effort, the International is dead, a fatal poison has been smuggled into the ranks of the international solidarity of the workers. For a long time their ranks will be split up, their strength paralyzed.

We, the representatives of the workers of the Scandinavian countries, who feel very deeply the bloody seriousness of the situation, now turn to speak to the workers in all the Entente countries, in England, America, France, Belgium, and Italy. *We have inaugurated a blockade against all these nations that are waging war against Soviet Russia*, in order in this manner to cripple the attacks launched by the imperialists. We call upon you to join us in this blockade. But we expect more than this from you. The responsibility in this world historic situation is upon your soldiers. The capitalists of your countries have come out victorious in the great world conflict. They are now the masters of the imperialistic world.

They have now become also leaders in the struggle of Capitalism against the working class. The workers alone must therefore direct the chief attack against them. We do not doubt that your powerful organized forces will be able to cope with this task, if you are only united and willing. We Scandinavian workers address our appeal to you. Close your ranks for a united struggle by the side of the entire world proletariat.

(Signed) The Provisional Committee for the Scandinavian Workers Movement, Party of the Left.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO NATIONAL LEFT WING CONFERENCE DELEGATES,

I was elected treasurer of the Conference and the task of winding up the affairs of the Conference rests upon me. I find myself with a debt of \$500.00 dollars on my hands due to the Convention Reporting Company which took the stenographic minutes and several hundred dollars still due to delegates for railroad fare.

There is about a thousand dollars still coming from delegates on the basis of the fifty dollars tax as revised by the Conference. Unless this money comes in it will mean that the reporting company cannot be paid and we will be unable to print the stenographic reports in pamphlet form as the Conference decided.

Therefore I call upon all the delegates who still owe money to the Conference Fund to bring the matter to the attention of the respective local, branch or federation and have the money sent to me immediately.

MAXIMILIAN COHN,