

## Starving the Soviet Republics

THE Peace Conference has arranged things very nicely for the dominant Imperialism. It has concluded a peace of conquest and aggrandizement. It has divided the world financially and territorially. It has assured to the nations of the Allies the purpose for which they went to war—world power and domination.

It is astonishing the slick way in which the Peace conference has arranged matters. Under the protection of President Wilson's "14 Points" the Conference has perpetrated acts of reaction more terrible than any in the world's history. Under the protection of ideologic camouflage, each of the victorious nations has annexed territory and got away with it under the guise of "mandatories." Great Britain has added about one million and a half square miles of territory to its dominions; France almost as much, with Italy and Japan trying to equal the larger brigands.

The Shantung Peninsula affair is characteristic. The Peace Conference, mouthing its idealistic phrases, has given Japan control over Chinese territory with a population of 40,000,000 people. The Chinese have protested; but they have been brutally squelched by the Conference of the Great Powers.

All these territorial "adjustments" are related to economic problems, to financial mastery of the world. It is, in other words, an economic peace for Imperialism.

The Conference has concluded peace in order to assure these "adjustments" of power. But the Great Powers realize that these adjustments are temporary as long as the menace of Bolshevism is not crushed.

The Peace Conference, accordingly, is concluding "peace" in such a way as to make arrangements for a new war against the Soviet Republics in Hungary and Russia.

Bolshevism is the protest of the masses against conquest and spoliation. Bolshevism will not for a moment tolerate the adjustments of the Peace Conference, which constitute a threat to the peace and liberty of the world. The victory of Bolshevism means the end of the imperialistic division of the world in the interest of the Great Powers. Bolshevism calls upon the workers of the world to crush Capitalism and Imperialism, re-organize the world so that all peoples shall be assured of peace by making the world a universal Soviet Republic.

In the Allied countries the conscious proletariat is prepared, at any moment, to sweep aside the old order and unite forces with Soviet Russia and Hungary. The existence of

these two Soviet Republics is a challenge to the proletariat of the Allies to act for the conquest of power. So the Allies must crush Bolshevism, else they be crushed.

This is being tried in a number of ways. Peace is being concluded with the provision that certain nations shall make war against Soviet Russia, other nations shall make war against Soviet Hungary. Poland and Finland are to fight Soviet Russia; Rumania and Jugo-Slavia are to fight Soviet Hungary. Small nations are being created for no other purpose than to constitute the instruments of the Allies against Bolshevism.

Accordingly, while "peace" is being concluded new wars are being organized against the Soviet Republics.

But this is not all. While military war is being waged against Russia and Hungary, the Allies wage another war—economic war.

The Peace Conference has decided, according to the press, not to allow the resumption of trade relations either with Russia or with Hungary as long as the Soviet Government controls. Neutrals are prohibited from trading with these two nations under threat of being denied trade with the Allies. In other words, the Soviet Republics of Hungary and Russia are to be blockaded.

This blockade is one of the most infamous acts of history. It is worse than any crime perpetrated by Imperial Germany during the war. It is worse than any act perpetrated by the Allies during the war.

Russia is shattered; Hungary is shattered. They are shattered because of the war, because of the crimes of the old regime.

Reconstruction is the task. But reconstruction implies trade relations with the world. The Allies deny Russia and Hungary these trade relations.

The capitalist press says that Hungary and Russia are starving because of Bolshevism. They are starving because of the war and the blockade of the Allies. If a blockade of France and Italy were to be organized, these two nations would starve within one week. Italy and France are disorganized, are starving, are in almost as bad a plight as Soviet Russia and Hungary; but what maintains them is trade with the outside world.

Peace was to have restored normal relations to the world. But the Peace Conference is not trying to restore normal relations unless these relations promote the supremacy of Capitalism.

The Allies accuse Bolshevism of starving

Russia and Hungary. But it is the Allies who are doing the starving. It is the Allies who are condemning millions and millions of people to starvation because they do not agree with the politics of these people.

The Allies are making it clear that they will do all in their power to crush these Communist Republics. They dare not send their own soldiers against the Red Army of Russia: so they finance Kolchak; Kolchak is beaten, so the Allies institute a murderous blockade.

It is now clear that the Russian people are not against the Soviet Republic; it is now clear that Kolchak does not represent the masses of the Russian people. Yet the Allies still insist that the Soviet Government is not representative.

Every act of the Allies against Russia or Hungary is an act against the workers in their own countries.

The French, British and Italian workers are realizing this. They are preparing to act against the Allies blockade. In Naples the Seamen's Federation first prevented a British ship laden with munitions for Kolchak from leaving the harbor, and then they took all the munitions off before allowing the ship to sail.

It is necessary that the workers of the Allies should act drastically against the blockade of Soviet Russia and Hungary. It is necessary to break the blockade.

There is a struggle now going on in the world, which is symbolized by the struggle between the Peace Conference and Soviet Russia. The Peace Conference represents reaction and the capitalists of the world; Soviet Russia represents progress and the workers of the world. One or the other must meet defeat. The Peace Conference uses hypocrisy, deceit and brutality to put over its purposes. It is the centre of reaction. If it conquers, the world will be dominated by oppression and exploitation.

Starvation is the final resort of murderous Capitalism. The Russian people do not ask for food; they do not ask for charity; they simply ask that the blockade be lifted, that they shall be allowed to trade with the world as all other nations.

But the Allies do not want to permit this. They want to protect their spoils, to protect the infamous acts of the Peace Conference. Soviet Russia and Hungary are today the one factor that assures peace and justice to the workers: the workers of the world must rally to the Soviet Republics.

