

Here and There

ON August 5th the Lusk Committee woke from a sound sleep and gave the Left Wing headquarters another raid. The first raid, which occurred June 21st, discovered *The New York Communist* on the day after it had suspended publication. After six weeks of careful sleuthing Archibald Stevenson discovered *The Revolutionary Age*, and on Tuesday last at *ten minutes to three* a pair of timid-looking cops slunk up the stairway of headquarters armed with a handful of summonses, ordering everybody connected with *The Revolutionary Age* to appear before the Attorney General at *three o'clock*.

The editors happening to be out to lunch, the cops served the shipping clerk, the stenographers and Comrade Bert Wolfe, who immediately left for the hearing. Comrade I. E. Ferguson, the National Secretary, went along as attorney; and when they found out who he was, they served him too.

The hearing was secret. The persons who testified were told not to breathe a word outside what had happened to them in the dark, mysterious chamber. They were asked how much circulation the paper had, where it was printed, and what was Comrade 'MacAlpine's address. As no one but the Business Manager knew these things, not much information was obtained.

After sitting outside the room all afternoon, Comrade Wolfe and Comrade Ferguson were told to go home. The Luskers were evidently afraid to tackle them.

After a severe cross-examination, the Luskers evidently thought of looking at the Union Label on the paper—and thus they discovered the dreadful secret of where it was printed. They then sent for the printer, and, it is rumored, questioned him earnestly about how a linotype machine works.

All this ridiculous pussy-footing was, we are credibly informed, undertaken in order to try and get enough evidence to back up the indictments which it is framed up the Grand Jury will hand down on August 11th.

If the District Attorney can base indictments on the evidence of half a dozen "I—don't—knows." we are doomed!

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Every spring a group of prominent New York politicians meet in Albany and hold what is known as a legislature. At the end of the session it is usually thought necessary to provide a summer vacation for a certain number of persons who have information regarding what *really* happened during the session. Some say that the purpose of this custom is to prevent these people from making their knowledge public, but be that as it may, the fact remains that these vacations are of yearly occurrence. This year New York City was picked as the vacation ground. An appropriation of \$30,000 was made to cover traveling and hotel expenses. The fortunate ones are now known to fame as the Lusk Committee, and, while they are enjoying the pleasures for which the city is famous, they are supposed to conduct an investigation into Bolshevism for the purpose of placing as much misinformation as possible before those who will assemble in Albany next year.

In spite of the hot weather the committee has been very active, sitting at least one day every week. Some evil-minded persons have been heard to say that this activity is in a large measure due to the fact that prohibition is in force, and that it is common knowledge that the

members of the committee simply can't stand the 2.75. However, the fact remains that the committee has obtained a tremendous amount of publicity when it is remembered that during the past few months three murders, two divorce cases, Peace, prohibition, the trans-Atlantic flights, and the arrival of President Wilson of Paris for a short vacation in this country have kept the linotypes busy.

For a time it looked as if the committee's efforts would be fruitless, owing to the fact that the U. S. Senate investigation has hogged all the spicy and sensational details of Bolshevism, through its good fortune in getting a clergyman to testify. But the Lusk Committee has at last unearthed something. We cull the following from *The New York Tribune*:

Mme Sarah Naumovna Ravvich, said to have been sent to this country by Leon Trotzky to organize the forces of unrest and revolution, with a view of seizing the government (and bringing it back to him tied up with *Red* ribbon) is now being sought by operatives of the Lusk Joint Committee on Bolshevism. Mme Ravvich, described to the committee as the one who directed the betrayal of Russia, arrived in this country some time ago under an assumed name. According to information to the committee she is said to have served Germany well in the late war. She was one of those allowed to pass through Germany in sealed cars from Switzerland to Russia just prior to the overthrow of the Constituent Assembly by the Bolsheviks.

Immediately after evidence had been presented to the committee yesterday that Mme Ravvich and others who were active in the Bolshevik revolution were in America, Senator Clayton R. Lusk sent for Immigration Inspector A. B. Schell, who was assigned to the committee. . . . Schell was requested to ascertain just how many of the agents of Trotzky had entered through Ellis Island in the past three years.

We learn on good authority that the committee has reasons for believing that Mme Ravvich is none other than the famous Mrs. Trotzky, who was last heard of on her way to Switzerland with several thousand pounds of gold in her stocking. It is of course quite well known that Trotzky is one of those heartless brutes who believe that wives should be put to work, in fact there is good reason for believing that he has several wives working for him at present. The fact that Mme Ravvich entered the country under an assumed name will not prevent Inspector Schell from getting all the information desired as there is a complete record of all Bolshevik agents who enter at Ellis Island.

We understand that every person entering the country is required to give particulars regarding his or her business. Also each person traveling under an assumed name is required to inform the authorities of this fact, stating in clear tones, first the assumed name and then the real name, thus: "Assumed name, Jones, J-o-n-e-s. Real name, Fish, F-i-s-h."

The immigration authorities ask each person whether he or she is one of Trotzky's agents, and when the reply is in the affirmative a careful note is made in a little book which each inspector carries with him for this purpose. The only difficulty that may be experienced by the inspector in getting the information desired by the committee lies in the fact that until recently immigrants were not asked whether they were working for Lenin. Secret agents are of course not expected to volunteer information about themselves but only to answer the questions asked, consequently many persons who replied "No" to the question "Are you Trotzky's agent?" might have been working for Lenin and of course they did not volunteer this information. This difficulty is being met, however, and now each inspector has a complete list of all members of the Bolshevik government and thus Russian agents have no chance of escaping detection.

Bolshevikjabs

"RAILROAD workers won't brook return of roads to privat rule," says a headline—and the mild mannered conductor who punches our commutation ticket doesn't look in the least like a Bolshevik. Why he hasn't even got a beard and his hair is cut quite short.

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"Socialist Government Replaces Kun Regime," says *The New York Call*. Now that nasty proletarian dictatorship has gone, and democracy, with equal suffrage and everything, is saved once more.

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Congress is going to investigate the high cost of living, so the packers have been forced to raise prices half-a-cent to meet the expenses of sending witnesses to Washington.

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"Make money scarce and the cost of living will drop," says Senator Myers. It is now the clear duty of all patriotic employers to reduce wages and thus save the workers from themselves.

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"The Congress now being held in Luzerne is the last gasp of the so-called 'Second International,' held under the direction of the International Socialist Bureau of Brussels," says *The New York Call*.

Choked, we suppose, because Washington wouldn't give Algeron Lee a passport!

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We understand that Senator Hiram Johnson, after consultation with Morris Hillquit, William Jennings Bryan, and other well-known popular leaders, has decided to form a new party. Among the planks will be: Withdrawal from Russia, amnesty for Tom Mooney, repeal of the Espionage Act, in fact everything the Right Wing wants, including repudiation of Proletarian Dictatorship.

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Never mind the National Emergency Convention, comrades of the Right Wing, wait till you see what will happen when the Republicans meet!

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Judging from the reports of the Amsterdam Trades Union Congress Sammy Gompers wants the war to start all over again—the German delegates are not nearly humble enough.

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But while Sammy's lashing the Germans quite a lot of union men, who have not had the opportunity of traveling abroad, have an altogether mistaken idea of their functions—they are talking about One Big Union.

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It certainly looks like as if Mexico was going to be found guilty of having oil wells.

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The English Crown Prince is on his way to America according to press reports. The Prince of Wales must not, however, be confused with that other Crown Prince. It is a fact that they are both crown princes, and that the chances of either of them ever sitting on a throne are rather slim, it is also a fact that they are related to each other, but the one that is coming to America is a democratic prince—he was down in a coal mine once.