

Soviet Russia Celebrates Fourth Anniversary!

Before another issue of the **WORKERS' COUNCIL** appears, labor in all lands will have celebrated the fourth anniversary of the Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic. Its birthday is Monday, November 7, 1921.

The first Workers' Republic has survived all attacks directed against it, through four years filled to the brim with agony in every conceivable form.

Labor in all capitalist lands will unite, on this year's anniversary with the emancipated toilers of the Soviet Republic in celebrating the great victory that is slowly being won over famine and plague in the Volga River provinces.

This year we may all express the hope, more confident than ever, that the fifth anniversary of the Soviet Republic will find it far advanced in its work of reconstruction, in its efforts to establish a real communist society.

The workers everywhere will profit by the example and by the four years' martyrdom of their Russian comrades.

The committee divided 12 to 3. The employers and their professors (the first endow the colleges in which the latter teach) had agreed that the prevailing high (sic) wages obstruct the process of deflation which the committee believes must run its course.

Deflation of profits was not mentioned, of course, in connection with either of the nostrums now advanced to cure the sick industrial system.

The professorial members of the committee are surely familiar with a study published in the last issue of their official organ, the American Economic Review, which proves with abundance of evidence that wages have lagged behind increases in the cost of living, and that notwithstanding the increases in wages granted during the war, the purchasing power of the workers' earnings was about 20 per cent less in 1918, than in 1890.

The federal government, that sponsored the jobless conference, washed its hands of the problem and graciously referred it to state and local authorities to deal with as best they can, to solve the problem of providing jobs for five millions of industrial outcasts.

The British government attempted to perpetrate a similar joke upon its workers. Unlike the A. F. of L. leaders, they refused to join a government conference on unemployment. They preferred to hold the government and the employers fully responsible for the industrial demoralization and are vociferously demanding the provision of immediate and effective means for alleviating the suffering of the idle workers and their families.

The officialdom of American labor is too spineless to adopt a similar attitude. How long will American labor endure such degradation and betrayal of its interests. The time to take account of its affairs is long overdue.

A NATIONAL ISSUE

The New York municipal campaign has suddenly assumed a national importance thru the decision of the board of elections to bar from the ballots the names of two political prisoners, Benjamin Gitlow and Harry Winitzky, Communists, candidates of the Workers' League for mayor and president of the board of aldermen.

Thus the boasted American "democracy" again sheds its thin veneer and reveals itself as the sham it really is.

In order to deprive the workers of the means of expressing themselves thru electoral struggles, first the courts send their spokesmen to prison, then because they are in prison, deny them the right of functioning as the standard bearers of their class.

If this can be done in New York City, it can be done elsewhere. It is a crude practice that the autocracies of Europe always considered too raw to be successful. European political prisoners are allowed to have their names on the ballot. And if they are elected they are usually freed.

This new, criminal attack upon the working class of this country by the capitalist dictatorship must be fought. The **WORKERS' COUNCIL**, with other organizations, has endorsed the ticket and campaign of the Workers' League.

The candidates for controller and borough presidents are Edward Lindgren, Rose Pastor Stokes, Charles Brower and Jacob W. Hartman.

Every worker in Greater New York should enlist in this campaign, a part of the great struggle for the liberation of his class. Workers over the country can help by sending their contributions to the Campaign Fund, Workers' League, 250 W. 25th St., New York City.

WE'LL NOT FORGET

Attorney General Dougherty quietly announces that he has again pigeon-holed the Debs' case. In the meantime he hopes the workers will forget. He thinks the workers will forget about Debs, Coldwell and all the rest, at Atlanta, Leavenworth and elsewhere.

Tom Mooney still sits in his iron cage in California's state prison because the working class sleeps. Billings is with him.

Every hour brings Sacco and Vanzetti nearer the gallows in Massachusetts.

The first business of the Italian Socialist Party congress meeting at Milan was a protest against the capitalist conspiracy to legally murder our Italian comrades.

Let every waking hour of every worker carry the thought, "We'll not forget." We'll not forget Debs, Coldwell, Mooney, Billings, Sacco, Vanzetti, nor one among all the rest who suffer in prison for loyalty to labor's cause.

When labor gets to thinking hard enough on these crimes perpetrated against it, then it will begin to act.

The Communist International Exposes the Washington Conference

Proclamation on the Washington Conference for the Limitation of Armaments Issued by the Executive Committee of the Third (Communist) International.

I. THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

THE conference called by the United States Government at Washington for the regulation of Eastern Asiatic problems and the reduction of armaments is a new attempt on the part of capitalist society to find an escape from the contradictions created by the imperialistic World War.

The idea of the creation of a Central Europe and the "League of Nations" has ended in a complete fiasco.

Three years after the end of the war and two years after the conclusion of peace Europe offers the spectacle of a great cage in which all manner of wild beasts are fighting over a bone thrown to them.

Victorious capitalism having demonstrated with such "eminent success" its ability to create peace, now the United States of America, that back in the days of Versailles participated in the attempt to establish the League of Nations and then refused to become a member of its own creation, has a second time taken the initiative, in order to solve questions in which it is vitally concerned, that is, the questions involving Eastern Asia.

Besides this, the United States is desirous of solving the question of the reduction of armaments.

All this is to be accomplished by the Washington Conference. But this attempt, like the previous ones, will lead to no result.

At best it will lead to a new grouping of powers and to an intensification of the already existing basis of conflicting interests.

That such a development will take place is evident from a consideration of the motives impelling the United States, England, and Japan and from an analysis of the conflict of interests existing between them.

II. NEW PARTICIPATION OF THE UNITED STATES IN EUROPEAN POLITICS

The United States withdrew from the League of Nations: (1) Because England, holding six votes in the League of Nations, impressed her individuality upon the entire League; (2) Because the American capitalists would not guarantee the boundaries decided on by the Versailles Treaty; and (3) because the Republican capitalist clique desired to take advantage of the weakened interest of the American petite-bourgeois masses in European affairs, in order to hold the Democratic capitalist clique at a respectable distance from participation in the joys of government.

But the United States was, nevertheless, compelled to take part in the game of world politics. The capitalists of Europe and the Entente nations owe the United States 20 billion dollars.

Further developments in the conflicts prevalent in Europe decided not only the question of whether the

debtors would be in a position to pay their debts, but also the question of whether the United States would be able to maintain its industry, which had developed tremendously during the war, at the same high level.

While in 1919 a part of the American capitalists could still assume that their welfare was entirely independent of the economic development of Europe, the terrible crisis of 1920 and 1921 made it apparent, even to the American farmers, that America will be unable to export her products if the economic life of Europe continues to decline.

And this is the reason why the United States is taking a hand in deciding the question of German reparations, why it is asserting itself in the Supreme Council in deciding the question of Upper Silesia, and why it has just now taken a particular stand on the question of the Russian famine.

In a word, the United States has returned to the fold of the Supreme Council, which stands as the true representative of world capitalism and has made a toy of the League of Nations.

The United States is now endeavoring to gain control of the administration of world politics, and in its efforts it is taking full advantage of the difficult situation in which its British rival is caught at the present moment.

III. ENGLAND'S DILEMMA

In its desire for victory English imperialism encouraged the colonies, that had gained considerable economic strength in the course of the war, to have a share in the administration of the war.

In 1917 the colonies were granted the right to help decide questions concerning the foreign policy of Great Britain.

Today this same imperialism is forced to recognize as rights these privileges granted to the colonies in the past, because it cannot bear alone the expense of the naval armaments it considers indispensable to resist the imperialistic competition of the United States and of her own allies, Japan and France, and for the further reason that it is compelled to regard the colonies as powers to be reckoned with.

In place of the British empire there stands now a federation of Great Britain and the autonomous capitalist English colonies, whose external interests do not coincide with the interests of the mother country.

While English imperialism is desirous of continuing the union with Japan, so that in the event of a conflict with the United States it may have an ally, and so that it may, by constantly encouraging the clash of interests between Japan and America, be in a position to play the part of a mediator between the two conflicting imperialisms, a contrary trend is evident in the young Canadian imperialism, which is becoming more and more dependent upon the United States and therefore cannot tolerate any aggravation of the delicate relations with its powerful neighbor.

Thus Canada expressed itself in the imperial conference against the renewal of the alliance with Japan