

and disclaimed all responsibility in connection with such a step.

As far as Australia is concerned, the only opponent to be considered is Japan, America even counting as an ally in case of a conflict with Japan.

In South Africa the farmers wish to be left out of all political conflicts.

This attitude on the part of its largest colonies has brought about such a situation that English imperialism has lost its capacity to act with a free hand in its relations with the United States.

The continued intensification of economic competition between the United States and Great Britain has confronted both rivals with the question whether such competition, existing as it does amid an atmosphere of great political discord, would not result in an increase of armaments, leading possibly to a new world war.

In a new world war England would be in a much more precarious position than during the world war of 1914-18.

Unable to count upon the unconditional support of her colonies, England would in all likelihood find among her opponents even France, whose efforts to gain control of all continental Europe with the aid of her vassal states, Poland, Czecho-Slovakia and Roumania, and whose Eastern policy is bringing her into ever greater opposition to England.

English imperialism has been the means of destroying not only the naval power but also the military strength of German capitalism.

The disarming of German capitalism has raised French militarism to the most significant factor on the continent.

In the present state of development of long-range guns, aviation and submarines, France as an ally of the United States in a future war would not only be in a position to effect a total blockade of England but could even have the boldness to land forces in that country.

This state of affairs is forcing the British Government to attempt even now to arrive at an agreement with the United States.

The result of such an agreement would be the formation of an Anglo-Saxon capitalistic trust with its center of gravity in America. This trustification would be effected at Japan's expense.

IV. THE ISOLATION OF JAPAN.

Japanese imperialism at very little expense to itself, became immensely rich during the war as a supplier of war materials to the Entente. It was further aided by the fact that England, owing to the strain of war, was unable to supply her colonies with adequate quantities of goods of her own manufacture.

At the opening of the war Japan, by the use of diplomacy, prevented the participation of China in the world-war, and wrested Kiao-Chau and the province of Shantung out of the hands of German imperialism, putting herself in the place of Germany.

Japan supported and encouraged internal strife in China and took advantage of these conflicts to step in, presumably as an organizer, in reality, however, to become mistress of this enormous empire, which under the lead of the bourgeois South is slowly emerging from feudal confusion and making large strides in the direction of unity.

The results of the world war now make the fruits

of Japanese victory appear unsafe. The defeat of Germany, the retirement of Russia in her capacity as an imperialistic power prepared to undertake mutual marauding expeditions with Japan, have placed Japan in such a position that in the event of a conflict with the United States she can count solely on the support of England.

V. THE PLANS OF THE UNITED STATES IN REGARD TO EASTERN ASIA.

Due to the colossal need of expansion of its economic sphere of influence, the United States of America looks upon China and Russia (Siberia) as great markets offering fruitful ground for the application of American capital.

Considering the peculiar position of America as the creditor of the whole world, considering the competition of American industry not only with Japanese but with English industry as well, the United States is naturally placed in opposition to all special rights and privileges which the other imperialistic states, such as England, France and Japan have acquired in China and could at the present time acquire in Siberia as well.

America is attempting to crowd Japan out of China by the shibboleth of the "open door," a catchword that was introduced as far back as 1900 by the American Secretary of State John Hay.

And it is evident, from the attitude of America on the question of the Chinese radio stations, and on the question of the Island of Yap that it is prepared to take up the fight all along the line.

This attitude of the United States is a menace to the interests of England, but much less so than to the interests of Japan, for the reason that England as a capitalistically powerful state can much more easily fight American competition than Japan, and for the further reason that the possession of the shores of the Pacific is for Japan a question of life and death, while for England it is only one of the most important questions of world politics.

If England is compelled to choose between Japan and the United States of America, there is no doubt that she will decide in favor of the latter.

In view of all this the Washington conference appears to be an attempt on the part of America to apply diplomacy in order to wrest from Japan the fruits of her victory.

VI. THE PROBABLE RESULTS OF THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

The conditions for the limitation of armaments in the Pacific, or the distribution of naval bases among the various marine powers, depend upon the result of the negotiations concerning the questions at issue in the Pacific.

England will take sides with Japan and endeavor to obtain a compromise that will enable her to maintain the alliance with Japan and at the same time draw America formally into this alliance.

The military significance of the alliance in the event of a war with America is very great; but the diplomatic significance of this alliance in case of a conflict with the United States is likewise very great.

In order to attain this goal it will be advisable to grant Japan rights in Siberia, while America will receive concessions in China.

America will also be given a share in the exploitation of the oil fields of Mesopotamia.

If England succeeds in striking such a compromise, she will attempt within the sphere of the English-Japanese-American alliance to maintain particularly close relations to Japan.

Then these three powers will determine among themselves to what extent the other states should be permitted to have naval armaments.

If, however, it should be impossible to arrive at an agreement on the points of dispute, then the conflict will be still further intensified, as regards both the economic question and the question of armaments.

At the first opportunity England and the United States will form a trust, to cut down the gains acquired by Japan during the war, in favor of the United States, particularly in China and, to the extent that it may be possible, also where Soviet-Russia is concerned.

But this agreement, like the peace of Shimonoseki, by which Russia, Germany and France attempted in the year 1894 to rob Japan of the fruits of her victory over China, will become the starting point for new political groupings and new ramifications in world politics, should the agreement not be consummated, then the process of intensification of political conflict of interests will develop even more rapidly.

But in neither case can these conflicts be entirely cleared away.

The economic rivalry between England and America will remain, as before, a dominant situation in world politics.

Similarly the rivalry between Japan and England will continue to exist.

Furthermore, the conflict of interests between England and France will certainly remain, and to all these conflicts prevailing among the capitalistic victor states must be added finally the conflicts involved in their relations to the conquered capitalistic countries, as for example Germany, as well as in their relation to their colonies and, last but not least, to Soviet Russia a state that has caused a great breach in the international organization of the system of capitalistic states.

VII. THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE AND THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL.

The attempt to include in the agenda of the conference the question of the limitation of armaments on the Continent cannot possibly meet with success.

Even though, in consideration of the fact that Germany is totally disarmed, France would be running no risk in waiving her war preparedness. France will, nevertheless, not refrain from her endeavors to become the foremost military power in Europe, since the policy of French imperialism aims at French domination on the European continent.

And besides France, there are other states to whom the Peace of Versailles, and the other peace treaties, brought large territories, whose populations are hostile to their new governments.

In Poland, for example, there are large masses of Ukrainian, Russian and German inhabitants.

Czecho-Slovakia presents a picture similar to that of the former Austro-Hungarian combination. Besides the Czechs there are present in this territory large numbers of German, Slovakian and Hungarian inhabitants.

Roumania has subjugated Hungarian and Bessarabian populations. A large part of the Bulgarian

population has come under Roumanian and Jugoslavian sovereignty.

In the Near East, France, from its bases in Africa and Syria, is menacing England in this sphere, particularly at England's most sensitive point, the Suez Canal.

France is making a great effort to obstruct the policy of England in the Near East, a policy consisting in a unification of India and Egypt by the creation of a great Arab state completely dominated by British imperialism.

Under these circumstances, to require France to waive her armaments requires that England must first be agreed with France on all points of world politics.

What slight faith the capitalist states themselves have in the probabilities of disarmament is evident from the fact that the British Government, at the same time that it most cordially accepted the suggestion of Mr. Harding to open the negotiations on the question of disarmament in Washington in the month of November, assigned 30 million pounds sterling (\$150,000,000.00) for the construction of new battleships, pointing out that Japan is building eight dreadnoughts to be completed in the year 1925, and has already assigned funds for the construction of eight more to follow, and that the United States of America by the year 1925 will possess an array of more than twelve superdreadnoughts.

The Executive of the Communist International is bent upon revealing the true character of the Washington Conference, which will not be able to accomplish any result in the matter of disarmament, and will not contribute to the establishment of peace between the peoples.

This conference is nothing more than an attempt to defend the interests of the foremost (Anglo-Saxon) imperialistic brigands at the expense of the lesser brigand (Japan) and at the expense of China and Soviet Russia.

That this is the true character of the Washington Conference is all the more emphasized by the fact that Soviet Russia has not been invited to the conference, in order to deprive Soviet Russia of the opportunity of unmasking the contemptible game that is being played with the destiny of the peoples.

The Executive of the Communist International calls upon all the Communist parties and all the trade unions belonging to the Red Trade Union International to intensify their agitation and their struggle against the imperialistic states, whose clashing interests are bound to lead to a new world conflict unless the revolution of the proletariat deprives the capitalist class of its weapons and creates a common ground for a true peace league of the working people of all countries. The Executive of the Third International further calls the attention of the toiling masses of the entire world to the intrigues which are being prepared in Washington against Soviet Russia.

The Executive of the Communist International calls upon the masses of China and Korea, and upon the population of Eastern Siberia to ally themselves more closely with Soviet Russia, the only state that is truly endeavoring to build up its relations with the peoples of the East, menaced by world imperialism, on a foundation of equality and brotherly co-operation.