

revolutions arise. These events are not blazoned to the world until they break loose in formidable activity, but they alone are of supreme importance. The German proletariat is preparing to act.

And the temper of this arising movement in Germany is gauged in the minority Socialists. In Dresden a number of them were imprisoned for distributing leaflets urging the workers to strike and proclaiming the Social Revolution. The Independent Social Democratic Party is increasing in strength, having some months ago 120,000 members in good standing, as compared with 200,000 for the majority. And while the independent party increases in strength, the majority decreases. A part of the Left Wing Socialists in Germany are in the Independent Socialist Party, stiffening it and imposing a revolutionary attitude upon it in accordance with events; while a considerable number of Left Wing Socialists refused to join the new party, and are locally carrying on an intensive revolutionary propaganda.

Still less is known of what is going on in France, but the little is significant in itself and significant in relation to the French characteristic of acting impulsively en masse, clear and sharp. The government has been adopting more and more stringent measures against the pacifists. The Bolo Pacha episode has been used for all it is worth to discredit the advocates of peace. Thousands upon thousands of agitators against the war have been imprisoned, but still the agitation increases in scope and intensity. Left Wing papers are continually suppressed, and our comrades imprisoned. But all to no avail. Herve in "La Victoire" declares that he receives letters from soldiers in the trenches asking him why they shouldn't make a revolution in France as they did in Russia. The sentiment against war was strongest in France in the years preceding 1914, and it is stronger to-day. It matters not that Guesde and Thomas are with the government; it matters not that the minority captained by Jean Longuet is not sufficiently aggressive. There is a powerful Left Wing group; and then the proletariat of France has a magnificent habit of thrusting aside its leaders in crisis, taking things into its own hands, and making a revolution. It is coming!

In Italy the situation is apparently still further developed. The news of the Italian disasters at the front appeared simultaneously with the revelation of wide-spread revolutionary activity. Riots broke loose during the summer in Turin and other cities, and there were clashes with the troops in which a large number of people were killed. It is rumored that there is an agitation in the army for the organization of Soldier's Councils as in Russia. According to the New York "Evening Post" there "is a profound stirring of the masses, hastened by lack of food, coal and oil and general war weariness."

The opposition to the war is open, and the government dares not use drastic measures at suppression. General Secretary Lazzari, of the Italian Socialist Party, recently issued a circular to Socialist officials and municipal locals to refuse payment of certain government taxes, and in this way strike against the

war. Lazzari followed this up on September 12 with a letter the salient features of which follow:

"You know the opinion expressed by our comrades in the Chamber against a third winter of war. Our party must honorably and determinedly keep to its given word. Because of their direct influence upon the populace, the local governments are surely a mighty political weapon. Those that we have won by our votes must serve through a united acts of protest to victory. **Before the winter there must be peace.** This is the policy about which there must be unswerving party unity. The means of accomplishing this are in my opinion two: (1) To bring about the immediate dismissal of Socialist officials in numbers, by means of universal and equal political agitation, in order that your carrying on of your offices shall not contribute to the continuation of the war, which can bring no solution for certain problems and is merely multiplying the economic and moral deprivations of all the nations; (2) by handing in your resignation and that of your entire common council upon a given signal."

These actions were discussed in parliament, action being urged against the traitor, Lazzari was cited before the authorities, but the government dared not prosecute him, and Lazzari is still at liberty carrying on the propaganda.

The Italian Socialist Party, which since the beginning has taken a splendid stand against the war, is being driven into even more aggressive and revolutionary tactics. The Left Wing group is developing increasing action and demanding more decided revolutionary tactics. In Florence and Naples the Socialists instructed their delegates to oppose the tactics of the party leaders at the Socialist Convention, and insist upon more aggressive action. A. Caroti is touring the country to arouse revolutionary sentiment, the tour being organized by the Young People's Socialist group, which in Italy as elsewhere is intensely revolutionary. It may be interesting to mention that last Christmas the headquarters of the Young People in Rome was raided by the police, revolutionary leaflets seized and destroyed, and the active members imprisoned. But the government failed to suppress their activity.

It is our firm conviction based upon the facts and the situation, that a revolution will soon break in Italy. And then will come the end!

The situation in England is less distinct, perhaps, but more promising than in any other nation. The reason why the world is still largely unaware of the real temper of the English proletariat is that the movement there is a strictly mass movement. According to the London "Times," it is "without acknowledged leaders." The leaders of the past are talking volubly, and create a wrong impression; they either dicker about cabinets, support the war, or indulge in a sickly propaganda of bourgeois pacifism. The revolutionary movement is developing considerably among the organized workers, and among the unorganized; it is sober but determined, and it is mapping out a program of revolutionary action that squares with

nearly every essential of Left Wing Socialism.

The London "Times" holds out the prospect of an impending civil war, and thus describes the situation:

"There exists at the present moment a revolutionary movement in this country which has gathered considerable momentum; it has long passed the stage of mere talk, and has realized itself in formidable action. There has been no attack on the Throne, no rioting in the streets, no destruction of visible property, but changes have been already brought about which are thwarting the efforts of the government to conduct the war. . . It is a ferment working within the area of British organized labor, claiming for the proletariat's self-direction and enjoyment of the whole product of industry."

The Workman's Council, recently organized and representing 1,000,000 organized British workers, has a program which contains these three provisions:

"Expropriation of private landowners and capitalists. No compensation beyond ample provision against individual hardship."

"Ownership by the State; management by the workers; instead of the present capitalistic methods of production. This shall be applied immediately to the case of mines, railways, shipping, ship-building, and engineering, electric light and power."

"Abolition of the House of Lords. Substitution for it of a chamber based on the representation, not of geographical areas, but of occupations, industrial, professional, and domestic; labor and professional bodies thus becoming a constituent part of the country's government."

This is a thorough program, and indicates the deep revolutionary spirit of the workers. It is largely, though not fully, in accord with the new Mass Action and our own Industrial Unionism.

And this revolutionary spirit is forcing the war leaders to modify their stand in order to save their prestige. It was this revolutionary spirit that compelled Henderson to get out of the cabinet, and it is this spirit which will flame up in revolt as it did in Russia.

All of which indicates that what the war began and the Russian revolution accelerated, the workers in all nations are organizing to complete. The conditions of Imperialism and war inevitably generate mass action and revolution. Slowly but surely the forces of the proletariat are gathering for the great struggle with capitalism. And the revolution when it comes will be an inter-generate mass action and revolution. international aspirations of our intrepid comrades in Russia. Not in a day, not in a month—but it is coming!

Very significant it is that everywhere the Left Wing Socialists are the most aggressive against the war. Significant, moreover, is the fact that wherever the workers assert themselves in revolutionary action, they adopt the principles and tactics of the Left Wing Socialists. It is our day, comrades, and there is great work ahead! Our principles and tactics are in these times the determinant factor.

I. W. W. Defense Fund

The General Defense Committee of the I. W. W., through W. D. Haywood, has issued the following appeal:

"Do not think that the world war for democracy is waged only in the trenches of Europe. Far from the thunder of the guns the greatest battles, the most important to Labor, are being fought in shop, mine and mill between organized Capital and organized Labor. "Liberty" and "Democracy" find highest expression in, and are best represented by, Unionism in Industry, and Unionism is on trial!

"For years past the wolves of Wall Street and Commercial Clubs have shown Labor no quarter as industrial unrest was mirrored by larger and larger strikes. They have raised private armies of gunmen, laughed at law, subverted all government and spread a network of protected villainy from coast to coast. They have conspired with authority in strike after strike. As bloody monuments to greed stand the names of Cripple Creek, Homestead, Coeur D'Alene, Holy Grove, Lawrence, Paterson, Ludlow, Mesaba, Everett, Bisbee, Butte and the Mooney "Frame-up."

"In November, 1916, men representing Eight Billion Dollars of Corporate Wealth organized at New York City and openly announced a purpose to crush organized Labor. They selected the Industrial Workers of the World as the first organization to concentrate upon. Since then the I. W. W. has been subjected to most unbelievable and inhuman, illegal violence. We have thousands of affidavits for proof. Strikers have been deported into deserts and left to die. Frank Little was murdered at Butte. Hundreds of union men thrown into sickening "Bull-pens," starved, beaten and shot. The climax is reached by the present indictment at Chicago of 166 officers, members and sympathizers of the Industrial Workers of the World on charges of Conspiracy. The lies of "German Gold" spread broadcast by the serpent press were proven false. The present charges will prove false. Yet, Labor's Right to Organize is at Stake. "Today it is the I. W. W.; tomorrow it will be the A. F. or L." The charges against the I. W. W. are industrial in character and can be turned against any labor union.

"Capital counts upon clouding the issue with cries of "Treason," and accentuating the petty differences between labor groups. If Freedom of Labor—if the Right to Organize—the Right to strike, means anything to you, forget these petty differences and aid those men and women now in jail whose lives prove their faith to Labor in word and deed. They are willing to spend their lives in prison and leave their bones beneath its walls rather than see the dearest rights of Labor lost to you.

"Defense is now organized and asks your help. Send funds to the undersigned. Receipts will be forwarded and itemized statement rendered at close of trials. It is a fight for Life and Liberty. Act now."

Address: Wm. D. Haywood, 1001 W. Madison, Chicago, Ill.