

# THE NEW INTERNATIONAL

Published by  
THE SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA  
LEAGUE

5c A Copy \$1.00 A Year

LOUIS C. FRANA Editor

## Press Committee:

S. J. Rutgers I. K. Davis  
J. Axelrod S. Freiman

Address Communications  
3246 Kingsbridge Avenue  
New York City

## A FEMINE C. O. IN ENGLAND.

Our readers will appreciate the tragic humor of the following open letter sent to the British War Office in reply to a regimental paymaster's memorandum.

Re 48034, Bristol, Pte. T. H. Higgins.

Madam.—As your husband refuses to sign the necessary army form to enable separation allowances to be issued to you, will you please forward the two birth certificates to this office, so that children's allowance may be issued to you in respect of your children. Whilst separation allowance is not admissible to you in respect of yourself owing to your husband having refused to sign A.F.D. 4181B, the regulations permit allowance to be issued to you in respect of your children only. Will you, therefore, please forward these birth certificates as soon as possible.

C. Hewlett, Lt.-Col.

Sir.—In reply to yours of the 17th re "Children's Allowances," I beg you to wait until I ask before offering me allowances paid by the War Office for my children.

I know no such man as Pte. T. H. Higgins. My husband is Mr. Thomas Henry Higgins, aged 41 years, going bald-headed, having put in 30 years for industrialism.

When we were married I well remember these words being read: "Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder." I always have had an aversion to soldiers, and it's impossible for you to make me the wife of one now. Governments can rob us of our husbands, but they can't force us to bring more children into this country under conscription, so I reckon that they and I will be quits.

The dear children I already have I will work for, independent of "military pay," and in spite of my being a chronic dyspeptic for 15 years.—Yours faithfully,  
Mrs. Higgins

(A very conscientious objector.)

In New York City, Joseph J. Ettor, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Arturo Giovannitti and Carlo Tresca, are fighting extradition, and are seeking trials separate from those of the I. W. W. men. They do this on the ground that they are not members of the I. W. W. and were not actively associated with it during the period specified in the federal indictments. They take no stand prejudicial to the interests of the I. W. W.

# The American Menace to Peace

THE capitalist interests in the United States not only are against a victorious Germany, but against a victorious England as well. What is wanted above all is the continuation of the war, and the United States at present forms the greatest obstacle to a peace in the near future.

Prior to its own participation in the war, in the period of fabulous war profits, coined from the blood of its present Allies, there was but one dark spot: the bright heaven of capitalist prosperity: peace might interfere, had to interfere some day and then a breakdown was inevitable. A peace rumor meant a drop in the stock market and a curse on the lips of the Wall street profiteers.

Not only were golden profits filling the coffers, but at the same time competitors were destroying each other in a fight to a finish, leaving no powerful European rival in the struggle for world power. "Peace without victory" meant peace without a victorious rival for the United States, and was based on mutual destruction for those involved.

But it is not enough to gather profits, since the productive forces of the United States by far surpass the demands of the national market, and the problem of reinvesting profits is already a burning issue. American capital needs expansion, permanent expansion, world expansion, and therefore world power. Not only has there been a physical lack of military force, but still more a lack of "national" spirit, indispensable for success of Imperialism. The preparedness campaign did not fulfill the expectations, the Mexican invasion had to be given up since the militia proved totally inadequate. Wilson's "League of nations to enforce peace," which would have made it possible to saddle a military organization upon the workers under the pretext to enforce peace, did not find response either abroad or at home, and it became evident that the only hope to create a war spirit was through actual war. And even then this spirit did not develop very rapidly.

The longer, however, the war lasts, the more chances of creating a war spirit characteristic of modern "patriotism," the more chances also to build up a thorough equipment of military power, unequaled in any nation on earth and superior to the European powers, weakened by mutual destruction.

For the next two or three years, the interest of the United States Capitalists is for continuation of the war and every move towards peace will find the most bitter opposition here, although, no doubt, American politicians will continue to claim their humanitarian love for peace.

When the Russian slogan "peace without annexations and indemnities," which in its vague and indefinite form is very near to Wilson's "peace without victory," threatened to become a basis for peace negotiations, the American slogan had to be dropped. The Pope in his endeavor to strengthen his International position, skillfully used the very words of President Wilson in his proposal, only to prove once more that

words do not rule the world. "Peace without victory" became "peace without autocracy"—in Germany. Evidently Mr. Wilson feels confident that the overthrow of the Kaiser will give some respite and if this calamity should happen untimely, the future slogan is easily constructed. A revolution in Germany would result in a terrific internal struggle and a state of affairs even more confused and unstable than Russia presents to-day. The future slogan of American Capital, no doubt, will be "no peace without a stable government in Germany," strong enough to keep its promises and treaties; no peace with a revolutionary working class, under any conditions.

The United States not only constitutes the most dangerous Imperialistic force of the future, the most imminent danger for the next world conflict, but also the great menace to a proletarian revolution in any part of the world. At

present American money and American industrial and economic influences are active in trying to crush the Russian Revolution, backing up whatever counter-revolutionary group seems capable of getting the situation "in hand," and just the same but with hundred-fold energy the United States Capitalists will help to crush any revolutionary movement in Europe, using the conscripted American workers against their European comrades. American autocracy is more modern, more efficient and therefore a greater menace to the future of the international working class than even the Prussian autocrats. This makes the responsibility of the American working class a heavy one. We have to re-double our energies in the class struggle, not only for victory at home but also to prevent our exploiters from becoming the dominant reactionary force all over the world.

## The Revolutionary Action of The New International

A reprint of Dr. Herman Gorter's "Imperialism, the World War and Social Democracy" contains an appendix from which we translate the last paragraphs:

The weapon of the Social Revolution in each separate country and in all countries is the organized action of the masses.

For this purpose all the revolutionary socialist workers will have to unite in the New International, along national and international lines, during and after the war. In Germany, France and England the revolt will break out and other countries will follow. The groups of the New International will lead the way everywhere and will transform the revolt into the Social Revolution. For this purpose they will have to separate from the reformists and also definitely from the radicals (of the type Kautsky) unless the latter join the revolutionists in time.

As a preliminary to the struggle, the revolutionary socialist workers will adopt internationally the following program as a basis for national and international action:

Guarantee of a compensation to all workers, who are unemployed or whose wages are insufficient.

Repudiation of national debts.

Confiscation of war profits.

Taxation of capital and income only.

Expropriation of Banks.

Expropriation of all Big Business.

Equal political rights for all inhabitants without discrimination of sex, nationality or religion.

Democratization of all representative bodies.

Abolition of Senates, Herrenhouses, etc.

The Republic.

Abolition of all protective tariffs.

Abolition of the military system.

The armed proletariat trained in this war, by endorsing these demands and enforcing them through mass-action, while it is still in possession of the weapons, can overcome the capitalists

and inaugurate the Socialist Commonwealth, at least as far as Western Europe is concerned.

## SOCIALIST DEFENSE FUND.

The national office of the Socialist party has issued the following appeal:

"There are scores of comrades who have been tried and convicted by juries prejudiced by the capitalist press. These comrades are entitled to be defended. We don't expect the profit-mongers to contribute to our defense fund. Yet legal defense cannot be had without money. If you were in the place of those indicted, wouldn't you expect every champion of justice to contribute every available penny to keep you out of prison? You would justly be entitled to their help. So then, we appeal to you to treat others who are fighting your battles as you would expect to be treated by them.

"The cases where convictions have been returned must be appealed to the higher courts. In other cases people are under indictment and are soon to be tried. There are still other cases involving the freedom of the press. We insist that this, the only means of communication open to the common people, shall not be denied.

"We need a fund of at least \$100,000 to meet the situation forced upon us. Nothing encourages comrades more than to know they are not deserted in crucial moments.

"We appeal to you to come to the aid of those who are slated for prison by officialdom gone mad with power. Send in at least One Dollar for the Defense Fund. Give more if you can, but do at least this much. This is an extraordinary appeal made necessary by an unusual condition. Bring this grave situation to the attention of your friends and enlist their support. Act at once! The fate of these active workers depends on you. Don't desert them!

"Make all remittances payable to: Adolph Germer, Secretary, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill."