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MILITANT WORKERS OF EUROPE SECURE MILLIONS IN WAGES

Militancy of European Workers Seen in Recent Victories in England, France and Belgium.

Washington—The international labor exploiters told us during the first months of the world-war that Socialism and the class struggle and internationalism had definitely disappeared. But now they are marching triumphantly in every country.

In some countries the workers are emancipating themselves from capitalism by the social revolutionary route, in others by the social evolutionary route. In some countries they strike against private employers, in other countries they strike against the Government. But in every country the workers are hitting the labor exploiters in the solar plexus.

A few of the notable victories of the class-conscious workers of the world are given herewith:

ENGLAND.

From England, Sydney Webb sends the authentic account of the terms of the settlement of the dispute between the organized railroad, mine, and dock workers, numbering all told 2,000,000 working men and forming with their families one-fifth of the population of that country. Webb was a member of the arbitration commission and is understood to have written the report which was agreed to by the workers, their employers, and the government. He is the author of a number of books on economic subjects and is a prominent member of the British Labor Party.

The demands of the three sections of the Triple Alliance were radical. And the 2,000,000 men threatened to tie up England with a general strike unless the employers and the government granted the major part of their demands. The 2,000,000 workers knew they had the power to tie up England; the labor exploiters knew the workers had the power to tie up England; the government knew the workers had the power to tie up England. So there was prompt action all around.

The workers did not declare the general strike. Nor did they wrest from the labor exploiters and the government 100 per cent of their demands. But they did coerce the labor exploiters and the government into granting the major portion of their demands, and, what is significant, they smashed the theory, so carefully nursed by the employers, that the wages paid the working people for producing wealth should vary according to the cost of living and be limited by that cost.

According to Mr. Webb's official statement the dock workers obtained the 44-hour week, big increases in wages, with substantial premiums for overtime work. The railroad workers got the 48-hour week, equalization of wages for each occupation, and the guarantee that neither the government nor the private owners of the railroads shall decrease wages for a year, even though the food profiteers may decrease the cost of the workers' living. The miners' Webb declares, presented the most radical demands, insisting on a large wage increase, a stiff reduction in hours, and the nationalization of the mining industry, temporarily operated under government control.

The Triple Alliance accepted the proposition to arbitrate the dispute. But they stipulated that the workers should select half of the members of the arbitration board and that the board should make its final

report within three weeks. The miners' federation named Smilie, its president, and Smith, its secretary, and three labor exploiters representing economic and political subjects, including Sydney, and a magistrate, who was to be the president of the board. The coal mine owners named three of their own members and three labor exploiters representing other big industries. It is significant that the three "intellectual" members of the labor part of the board were three defeated candidates of the Labor Party in the recent parliamentary elections.

The board made three reports. The coal mining owning labor exploiters offered to decrease the working day one hour and increase wages 15 per cent. The labor representatives demanded that the working day be cut down two hours with a 30 per cent increase in wages. The labor exploiters representing the other industries and the president of the board proposed an immediate reduction of one hour in the length of the working day, a further reduction of one hour in 1920, and a 20 per cent increase in wages. Lloyd George's government agreed to the third report, and the men consented to the compromise. The agreement establishes the 42 hours per week for underground workers and 46½ hours for other workers. "The commission's award," declares Mr. Webb, "will require the payment of increased wages amounting to \$218,000,000 per year. This is the largest wage increase ever made in Europe."

FRANCE.

In France, coerced by the Socialists in Parliament and menaced by the revolting workers in the industries, the Chamber of Deputies passed the national eight-hour bill extending the benefits of the shorter working day to every section of the Republic.

Profiting by the experience of the railroad, mine and dock workers in England, the French workers organized an even more effective alliance of the workers in the large industries to drive the eight-hour law through parliament. The French General Confederation of Labor has been co-ordinating the efforts of the organized workers of France ever since the armistice to compel action on the part of the labor exploiters controlling the French government, who have been exceedingly dilatory in enacting labor legislation, and especially so relative to the eight-hour day.

(Continued on third page.)

JOIN THE PARTY SAYS DEBS

Dear Comrade: Consider this a personal invitation to you to join the Socialist Party—and after you have joined, STICK. You are a Socialist. You have said time and again, "I'm with you—that's what I believe too." Yet, there is only one way in which you can prove that YOU ARE WITH US and that is by becoming a dues paying member of the Socialist Party.

We want you ON THE INSIDE, my comrade. We want you to help us RUN our party. Every comrade who joins it has an equal voice and vote in all its affairs. UNITED ACTION is needed RIGHT NOW—now when free speech, free press and free assemblage need again to be re-established—now when the persecution of people for their honest convictions must be stopped. Come in. Join TODAY.

Every one of our more than one hundred thousand dues paying members heartily welcomes your membership. Do not hesitate, dear comrade. The Socialist Party is YOUR party. Your choice must be between capitalist despotism and Socialist freedom. Join the Socialist Party today and be counted on the side of the oppressed of all nations.

Yours very sincerely,
EUGENE V. DEBS,

Ask for an application card at any Socialist meeting.

WAR ON REDS IN RUSSIA DRIVES YANKS TO DRINK

That many Americans in Russia have become alcoholics as the result of imbibing too freely of vodka was the assertion of Sergt. Louis Karel, 3624 West Twenty-sixth street, Chicago, X-ray expert, who served in France and in the hospital in England to which Yankee troops from Russia are taken. Sergt. Karel reached here today on the transport Louisville.

"There are thirty-six American soldiers in the hospital at Liverpool now waiting to be sent home," Sergt. Karel said. "Most of the men who come back from Russia have frozen feet. It is also noticeable that there is a large percentage of tuberculosis cases among them and that many come back as alcoholics."

"Liquor is welcome in the zero temperature, and many of the men acquired a craving for it."

Y. P. S. L. ORGANIZES AT BELLAIRE.

A new Y. P. S. L. has been organized at Bellaire. Quite a number of the members are party members, consequently we expect them all to be excellent workers.

When it comes to having a good time the Bellaire Y. P. S. L. is a star of the first magnitude.

We held our first social on the evening of April 12 and it certainly was a success in every way. Our program for the evening consisted of an address by our director, Comrade J. J. Hoge, several well rendered readings and musical selections by a number of our members. Not the least appreciated of which were two vocal selections by Comrade Lena Sambuco, the "littlet rebel."

It was here demonstrated beyond a doubt that our Yipselets know how to bake cakes, for one of them baked a guess cake, which brought almost ten dollars. When we tell you that it was a red flag it will not be hard for you to guess what was inside. You guess! Yes, a picture of our own "Gene."

Inspired by the success of this affair we are planning many other activities. Fraternally,
HATTIE GUBISER.

ALLIED FORCES IN RUSSIA

(An editorial in "The Manchester Guardian.")

Signs multiply that Allied military intervention in Russia is drawing to an end. The French government has announced that it will send no more troops to Russia, and that it will not even replace those who are being withdrawn or demobilized. The Canadian government is bringing home all its soldiers from Siberia where they constitute the bulk of the British contingent. The American government, somewhat to the concern of the Japanese, declines to permit its Siberian forces to participate in military operations. The disinclination of our own government to extend its commitments is equally marked. The Japanese have not been engaged in of late has been in the remote East and has no relation to the real anti-Bolshevik crusade. Finally, the Czech-Slovaks are out of the firing line, and are making their way home as fast as transport can be provided.

Allied war against the Bolsheviks is being wound up for a variety of reasons. That war was and is exceedingly unpopular with the soldiers, now that the war elsewhere is over. It is morally and politically impossible to keep a conscript army for such a purpose; it is impracticable also to get together a voluntary army. There is, further, the urgent peril of sowing Bolshevism in every country by making war upon it. There is, again, the impossibility of giving the world peace so long as there is war with Russia. Hints that the Allied governments have assimilated such reasoning as this may be gathered from the press. The American government has been investigating Russian conditions on the spot. Other governments have been or are doing the like. The air is full of rumors of arrangements and accommodations with the Russian government, and when we see the reflection of them in the changed tone and temper of semi-official French papers we cannot doubt that the rumors have substance. It is useless to complain that the Allied rulers have been intolerably long in reaching the inevitable conclusion. We can only hope that they will now act with vigor and decision.

SOVIET BANNER FLIES HIGH AT CHICAGO.

Chicago—Early walkers in Humbolt Park, Chicago, were astonished to see waving a hundred feet above the ground the first Soviet flag ever flown in this city. Some Bolsheviks had seen fit to create a bit of interest in present day problems by running up a red flag inscribed with white letters reading "Hooray for the Soviet Republic."

It was necessary to secure a stepladder to climb the pole after the offending emblem. It was later burned at police headquarters—

which, of course, settles the Bolshevik question as far as this city is concerned.

PARIS SCHOLAR ON PEACE CONFERENCE

"OPEN COVENANTS OPENLY ARRIVED AT."

That the peace conference is not only the most secret but probably the most august peace assembly ever held is the affirmation of Auguste Gauvrais in the Journal des Debats. This veteran journalist and student of diplomatic procedure writes:

"It is an unheard of thing, which posterity will hardly be able to believe, that the peace conference has kept on record of its meetings except in the public sessions where nothing has been discussed. Since January 18, the date of the solemn opening, not one of its members has been able to have registered the opinions which it was his mission to express. At the congress of Vienna, the congress of Berlin, and the conferences at The Hague, as well as at all other known conferences, protocols have been drawn, sometimes even voluminous, in which could be found the substance of the opinions, suggestions, propositions and counter propositions of representatives of the various states. It was not a stenographic record as in a parliament, but everything essential was written down, each member of the assembly moreover having the right to correct or modify the text of his declarations."

Chance to Explain Denied. "This traditional procedure was consecrated by long experience. It enabled each government to explain its viewpoint, make its objections, support or oppose various propositions and oblige its opponents to justify their pretensions by serious arguments. The protocols of the Vienna and Berlin congresses are extremely valuable collections."

"It is impossible to understand why these precedents have not been followed. The present crisis and also the prodigious mass of time would have been avoided. The ten, then the five and then the four have preferred not only to discuss matters in secret, but to leave no trace of their deliberations. They have not had any secretaries to record them. They have talked interminably. They have broached and debated all questions without putting anything on paper. They resume one day what they had settled the day before. They protest against Eugene Victor Debs. Believing that he was acting solely in accord with his political belief."

Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the members of Local No. 14 of the International Chain Makers Union, in regular session, do hereby by unanimous vote adopt the following resolution:

We as true and loyal American citizens believing in and upholding the constitution of the United States, the right of free press and free speech, do hereby protest against the imprisonment of Eugene Victor Debs. Believing that he was acting solely in accord with his political belief.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the members of Local No. 14 of the International Chain Makers Union, do hereby adopt the following resolution: To show clemency to Eugene Victor Debs and all political prisoners convicted under the espionage act. Furthermore, be it resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, and a copy be retained and placed on file for publication.

(Signed)
F. D. PEARSON,
J. VEST,
F. LANE,
Committee on Resolution.

Installed Themselves on Sinai. "We foresee the results of this method when the four installed themselves on Sinai. They thought they would be able to extricate themselves from difficulties by surrounding themselves with clouds. On the contrary, this was just the time to emerge into daylight. Having noted the conflict of views among themselves they should have confined themselves to formulating and justifying their opinions in writing. The mass of untenable arguments would thus have been swept aside. Even though no agreements were reached, material for arbitration would have been prepared."

Ben Hect of Chicago Tribune Cables That Though Soviets Rise and Fall, Workmen With Guns Are There To Stay.

The following dispatch was written in Munich, Bavaria, on April 19th. It is written by a capitalist newspaper correspondent to what is probably the first and foremost capitalist sheet of this country.

The story of Germany today lies in a single phrase—workingmen with guns. I have made my way through Bavaria, Wuertemberg, Saxony and the Rhineland. I saw stunted little peasants with blinking eyes carrying guns—ragged looking, unsmiling creatures out of engine room and mine depths, sauntering through the streets of Essen, through the streets of Hagen, Ochsburg, Munich—cocking their eyes at palaces, holding their heads high—everywhere expressionless faces of folks who have known misery, hunger and all ways hard labor, mocking about with guns slung over their shoulders.

Here in Munich today bolshevism reigns undisturbed. The workingman with the gun is the cock of the walk; the workingman with the gun lounges in the plush seats of the famous hotels where once the Bavarian elite focused a languid monocle upon life. Playboys Munich has vanished; even the revolutionary playboys are gone. The political grotesques are gone, the garrulous idealists have vanished from the seats of the new government and the little schoolmasters, cafe poets and expansive egos who for a few days

Seattle Labor Plans Five-Day Plan

Seattle, Wash., May 2.—Beginning tomorrow a five-day week will be enforced, according to announcement today by the building trades council, representing 6,000 workers. No work will be done on Saturday and Sunday.

The change was said to have been made in the belief that more men could be given employment in the building trades.

HE WORRIES ABOUT BOL- SHEVISM—GETS HEADACHE

As you will notice another town is being entered by the "Ohio Socialist," viz. Okolona, O., the result of my attending the lecture held there last Sunday, April 27, by Comrades Geo. Wicher and F. Adler, members of the Ft. Wayne, Ind., German Branch S. P. Both spoke in German to a large and very appreciative audience. Quite a lot of literature was sold and distributed, eleven subscriptions to the German weekly "Echo," of Cleveland, were secured by Comrade Wicher. I stole two one yearlies away from him for the Ohio Socialist while he wasn't looking. This is the first Socialist meeting ever held there and if I do not miss my guess it will not be the last, notwithstanding the "frothings" of the worthy (?) president of the Napoleon League of Patriots. (A Republican ex-officerholder by appointment, supposed to have made the statement that he "grappled with the question" all Saturday night, it robbed him of his sleep and made his head ache over this question—whether or not to stop the Socialist meeting called for Sunday at Okolona.)

I do not know what his reasons were for not stopping it. It may have been the fight he had with a comrade (who wouldn't be bluffed) a few hours previous, that decided the thing.

UNION MEN DEMAND FREEDOM FOR ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

Huntington, W. Va., May 1, 1919. Mr. Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States.

We, the members of Local No. 14 of the International Chain Makers Union, in regular session, do hereby by unanimous vote adopt the following resolution:

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FUTURE OF GERMANY IN HANDS OF TOILERS

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CLEVELAND SOCIALISTS' GREATEST PARADE ENDS IN RIOT AND BLOODSHED

Peaceful Internationals Attacked by Mobs—Scores Sent To Hospitals and Jails With Bruised Bodies.

The greatest parade ever staged by the Socialists of Cleveland ended in red riot and bloodshed on Thursday afternoon, May 1st. Hundreds of arrests were made, scores were taken to the hospitals, including seventeen policemen. Many more only slightly injured were taken home by friends. Riots and mobs ruled in the downtown section of the city for two hours. Shots were fired, police clubs cracked scores of heads and fist fights innumerable were principal parts of the debauch to which this section of the city was given over when the first division of the parade, numbering 35,000 marchers, entered the Public Square in the heart of the business section.

PARADES PEACEFUL AND HAPPY.

In five great divisions the 35,000 Socialists and sympathizers, including the Bakers' union, on strike for day work only, the Machinists, one local of the Carpenters, members of the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund, converged near Acme hall and began their march toward the Public Square. Thousands carried small red pennants. Dozens of banners demanding release of political prisoners, withdrawal of troops from Russia and similar emblems were carried. Great red silk banners together with the national emblem were carried at the head of the parade and by the different divisions.

Smiles and happiness were on every face, cheers were given for the workers' cause and the spirit of the New Day was seen to shine in every comrade's face and bearing. The parade was one of happy men, women and children, bent upon a peaceful and happy celebration of our international holiday.

The parade was passing East 9th on Superior street when soldiers on the sidewalk rushed into the parade tearing the red banners from the hands of the marchers. In a few minutes Superior street was a scene of riot and disorder from this point to the Public Square.

When the head of the parade reached the Square an immense cheering rose up from the thousands who packed the grounds. At the same moment the soldiers who car-

ried the Socialist banners were attacked by others from the crowds. Their banners were wrested from them. When C. E. Ruthenberg, who was to be the principal speaker, interceded for the Socialists, he was arrested. Scarcely had the applause of the vast throngs died down when a shriek of terror rose from thousands of throats as a platoon of mounted police dashed into the melee wielding clubs without discrimination upon men and women alike. Instantly, bedlam broke loose. Army trucks and tanks, police autos, ambulances and police patrol wagons were dashing helter skelter through the crowds overrunning and injuring many in an attempt to disperse the crowds. Autos carrying police and mounted police

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"I'M STILL ON DECK"

SAYS DEBS, REFLECTING ON
FATE OF FORMER FOES.

(By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL.)
(Special Correspondence.)

Chicago.—"All, or nearly all, of the enemies I've had during my life time have met with misfortune and tragedy. Clouds have settled early over their careers. I'm still on deck. And I'm going to emerge from this new experience in my life, in triumph, too."

This is one of the conclusions that Eugene V. Debs reached, as we discussed the big incidents of his busy life, while making that memorable journey to prison from Cleveland, O., to Moundsville, West Va., on Palm Sunday, April 13. He did not gloss over his fallen foes, who have sought to hold back the hands of progress, but rather exulted in the fact that the world was moving ahead in spite of all obstacles.

It all comes back to me now, stronger than ever, as word comes from Debs' prison down in West Virginia, to the effect that so many visitors want to see and visit "Gene" that the prison warden has been compelled to turn them away, and there are so many letters coming to "Gene" in the mail from all parts of the world, that the prison warden is planning to change his ruling made on the night of our arrival, that "Gene" would receive all letters sent him.

Has More Friends Than Ever. The prison officials, if not the democratic officialdom at Washington, are no doubt discovering that Debs has more friends than ever. One of Debs' most bitter opponents during the Pullman strike was John R. Walsh, the Chicago banker and newspaper proprietor. Walsh was himself sent to prison as a bank wrecker. His friends secured his release just in time to permit him to die on "the outside."

George M. Pullman and Eugene V. Debs clashed in the great Pullman railroad strike. Pullman is said to have gone to an early grave because of the wild life led by his two sons, both of whom died degenerated at an early age, also clouding the life of the wife and mother. Former Judge an Unburied Corpse. Judge Westenhaver, of Cleveland, Ohio, who sentenced Debs to his present ten years' imprisonment, isn't the first interpreter of law that has faced the Socialist spokesman. One of these was Judge Peter S. Grosscup of the federal district court in Chicago, who some years ago was driven from the bench in disgrace and who now lives somewhere, as Debs remarks, "an unburied corpse."

It was Judge W. W. Woods that was called upon to sit in the great

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