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Soviet Bureau Warns of Capitalist Press Lies on Russ "Defeats"

New York, who are arch-enemies not only of Soviet Russia but of the nationalistic aspirations of the Baltic peoples. In connection with press reports on

Russia, the Russian Soviet Bureau here issued the following statement yesterday:

In the interest of truth we find it necessary once again to warn the American public against placing too much faith in the present sensational press campaign depicting alleged anti-Soviet victories.

The total absence in the alleged news dispatches of official communications from the Soviet government is an additional reason for not taking the printed stories at their face value. It is admitted by every informed person that the Soviet government, with absolute frankness, keeps the world informed as to events in Russia, regardless of whether the news is favorable or unfavorable to the Soviet government.

The foreign office of Soviet Russia sends every day wireless communications containing such information. These communications daily reach the United States as well as other countries.

In most cases the news is never given out to the public except when it contains admission of some reverses. The fact that no such information is given out now clearly shows that alleged dispatches from London, Copenhagen, Stockholm and other notorious centers of lying propaganda against Soviet Russia do not state the facts of the situation.

Denikin's Straits Admitted.

But, even on the face of such reports, which emanate from sources hostile to the Soviet government, it is obvious that there is not an irresistible advance of the counter-revolutionary forces. While it may be true that Orel has been taken by Denikin's forces, it is admitted in the same dispatches that Denikin's army is hard pressed on its right flank, having been compelled to abandon vast territories to the southeast of Orel, and it is known that Denikin's rear is menaced by revolts.

It is also admitted by opponents of Soviet Russia that Denikin is meeting with obstinate opposition and severe reverses not only in the territory around Kiev, but southwest and north of Kiev.

In view of these admitted facts the situation seems to be that Denikin's advance to Orel, where the Soviet government was not prepared to place sufficient forces in the field because of the more important general offensive against Denikin's right flank, is nothing but a panicky result of his being desperately pressed on both flanks.

This pressure must result in the encircling of such Denikin forces which have advanced along a narrow line to the north. They are obviously in imminent danger of being caught far away from their bases and thus face destruction.

Reports Called Unreliable.

The reports of the alleged advance of the counter-revolutionary forces in the north also are singularly untrustworthy. The only significant thing about this news is that it shows the boundless hypocrisy of the British pretensions of opposition to the German Baltic Junkers.

General Yudenitch, the commander of the so-called Northwestern Russian army, is nothing but a tool of Von der Goltz and other Baltic Junkers, who together with Russian reactionaries of Yudenitch, Denikin and Kolchak type are striving to re-establish monarchy in Russia.

Von der Goltz has been kept in the Baltic with the connivance of Britain. The British played a double game—one on hand trying to create barrier against Soviet Russia by using as their tools nationalistic movements in Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia—on the other hand betraying these movements by seeking an alliance with the Baltic Junkers led by Von der Goltz,

who are arch-enemies not only of Soviet Russia but of the nationalistic aspirations of the Baltic peoples.

Peace Considered.

Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia have no interest whatsoever to strengthen either the Russian counter-revolutionaries or the Baltic barons, and so the result has been that these countries, in the interest of their very existence, have been seriously considering peace with Soviet Russia.

The situation in this respect has developed to the point where peace negotiations were to start at Forpat, October 12, and they would have undoubtedly led to an understanding between these peoples and Soviet Russia.

If such a peace is reached, it is obvious that it will altogether destroy the British and French plan to starve Soviet Russia and to re-establish monarchy in that country. The main driving force of the present campaign against Russia is, therefore, nothing but a desperate attempt, at any cost, to prevent such approaches between Soviet Russia and the Baltic nations.

But the campaign will not succeed. The Russian workers, as well as the working people in the Baltic provinces, understand full well the real significance of all these criminal machinations, and the Russian Soviet government is well prepared to thwart all attacks.

Business Men Impatient.

There is also another very important reason for the present campaign of lies, and especially for the desperate efforts on the part of certain Allied governments to extend the starvation blockade of Russia by asking Germany and remnants of Austria to join the blockade.

Many commercial interests have long ago lost their patience with the present Allied policy toward Soviet Russia which not only is bringing the Russian people untold suffering but also is quite insane from the point of view of commercial peace.

Within the past two months there have been definite steps taken by business men in many countries, and especially in America, to open trade with Soviet Russia. The efforts in this direction have reached a point where great pressure is being brought to bear on all governments with the view of opening trade relations. To thwart such negotiations, the present campaign of lies has been instituted.

Workers Demand Peace.

Finally, the laboring masses in Allied countries and in Germany are becoming more and more insistent in their demands that their rulers cease the criminal and senseless war against the Russian workers. This dissatisfaction has resulted in mass demonstrations everywhere, and refusals to load supplies for the Russian monarchists.

The lies wherewith such demonstrations have been answered are becoming stale, especially in view of the ever increasing ability of Soviet Russia. It, therefore, becomes necessary to create an impression of an impending downfall of the Russian republic and to simulate a "German menace," which in reality exists nowhere but in the acts of the Allies themselves.

We feel confident that the workers everywhere will not let themselves be deceived by such obviously false propaganda.

To sum up, the situation is as follows:

1. Denikin's campaign in the South is threatened with annihilation. His "advance on Moscow" is actually a retreat in the only direction where at this moment there is no concentrated military opposition, but where he instantly will be confronted with such his "advance" thus making him run right into the lion's lair without a chance of return to his bases.

2. The Baltic nations are determined

(Continued on page 2.)

ALLIED CONTROL OF PASSPORTS TO RUSSIA SCORED BY SWEDISH PARTIES.

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 23.—The Swedish parliament, in secret session today, began to discuss Sweden's attitude on the request of the entente allies that the neutral countries join in a blockade of Soviet Russia.

The Socialists predict a refusal to accede, while the Liberals and Conservatives said that a joint answer from the northern government is most likely and that this will point out that a de facto blockade exists and nothing is to be gained through a formal declaration.

All the political parties protest against the proposal to submit to passport control by the allied forces of travelers between Sweden and Russia, which is declared to be part of the blockade proposal and is denounced as being an unbearable humiliation.

GERMANS REFUSE TO BLOCKADE RUSSIA

BERLIN, Oct. 23.—The German Government is inclined to delay answering the Allies' recent proposal for an Economic blockade of Russia and if it does answer it will refuse to join.

The old saying that like experiences beget sympathy is here exemplified—Germany knows from experience, how terrible a thing an economic blockade may be made.

COMMUNISTS, UNITE!

An Appeal to the rank and file of the Communist Party and Communist Labor Party.

Every true Communist finds in the present unfortunate division of our ranks much cause for anxiety and views it as a condition not to be tolerated. Whatever may have been the causes for the catastrophe which occurred at the Chicago conventions which created this deplorable condition within the Communist ranks, the rank and file of the membership are demanding that every obstruction to a unity of the two Left Wing parties shall be immediately removed to make way for one great party of Communism in this country.

Weeks have passed since the Chicago conventions. The membership is coming to a realization of what occurred there and the thot that lies at the bottom of all its conclusions is that whatever differences there are in the organization and tactics of the two parties they are infinitesimal as compared to the greater question of UNITY. The rank and file of both sections see no fundamental differences between the two parties. And there are none. None are claimed by either side. The programs of both parties are based upon the program of the Third International formed at Moscow. Words, sentences and paragraphs are lifted almost bodily from that program and placed in the programs of both Communist parties. What differences exist in tactics and inner party construction are not of such a nature as should create a permanent division of the two sections. They can be thrashed out in a unity convention to the entire satisfaction of the rank and file if not of a few leaders and so-called philosophers who take it upon themselves to believe that the mantle of Lenin has fallen upon their shoulders.

"All power to the workers" is the slogan of both parties. "All power to the rank and file within the party" is a slogan which we must adopt in our party work. It is especially necessary that it be adopted at this critical period and the precept lived up to the fullest extent. Let the rank and file assert its rights and we will have one strong party of Communism in this country at once.

The conditions existing at the present time within the party ranks are most deplorable. The situation in Cleveland is a replica of the vast majority of locals throughout the country where the membership has made a decision for one or the other parties. For which ever party the majority of the membership has decided to affiliate, it has meant little. The other party has immediately organized. Affiliations by locals has meant little except the advantage which control of the organization machinery gives. The membership has immediately split up into the two camps. Tried and true comrades who have worked together shoulder to shoulder now find themselves divided.

This conditions must be brought to an end. It is intolerable, without sense or reason. Thousands of members, true revolutionists as any who remain in either parties are dropping out discouraged and disheartened because of the schism between the two Left Wing elements. Strong locals are split wide open and thus weakened. Our press is weakened on account of this division. Funds which should be used in propaganda and organization among the uninlightened workers are diverted toward building up dual organizations, duplication of effort and in establishing headquarters etc.

The rank and file are demanding UNITY. They are going to have unity. They are going to have it in spite of any and all obstructions that have been or will be placed in their path. To the rank and file this appeal is made. To those who by their sacrifice of time, money and effort have made this working class revolutionary movement possible, who have been the Jimmy Higgins in the party, whose nickles and dimes have paid for the propaganda and organization work; who have served faithfully and oft times, the sorry we are to have to say it, without honor or recognition; these thousands and tens of thousands we urge: DEMAND UNITY. DEMAND OF YOUR OFFICIALS THE REMOVAL OF EVERY OBSTRUCTION TOWARD UNITY. Demand that the officials of the Communist Party take favorable action upon the invitation of the Communist Labor Party for a Unity Conference.

If any stand between unity of the two Left Wing elements throw them out, brand them for what they are, ENEMIES OF THE WORKERS.

Strengthen the demand of the Communist Labor Party for Unity.

In unity there is strength. In unity we can strike from the throat of labor the blood-stained hands of capitalism and establish a world of Communist comradeship.

Yours for a united Communism
ELMER T. ALLISON.

Members - Locals - Celebrate the ANNIVERSARY of the Russian Revolution Nov. 9th.

Every local is urged to arrange a meeting for Sunday, Nov. 9th, in commemoration of the proletarian Russian Revolution. Get a speaker, hold a meeting however small, even in a comrade's home. Spread the truth about the Russian Revolution.

Celebrate the Anniversary of the birth of the first Industrial Democracy.

Debs is Anxious to do His Part in Steel Strike

By DAVID KARSNER.

E. V. Debs is taking a lively interest in the great steel strike. He is hoping that the workers will stand firm and bring the United States Steel trust and its subsidiaries to their knees. The pale blue eyes of the battle-scarred champion of the American working class flashed fire as he talked of the steel strike.

There was a note of longing in his voice as he narrated the incidents of the conflict as he had read them in the conservative papers published here. "If I should get out of this prison today, I would be in Gary or Pittsburgh tomorrow," he said. "That is exactly where I belong, and that is exactly where I would go. Mr. Palmer and Mr. Wilson and the capitalists know that perfectly well, and that is why they keep me here."

"I am not being kept as prisoner here for the speech I made at Canton in June, 1918. I am being kept here for the speech I would make at Gary or at Pittsburgh in 1919. I know that as well as I know my name."

Eager to Take up Work Again.

"If I should get out of prison today I would continue my work in behalf of the workers for Socialism where I left off in April of this year when I went to Moundsville prison. The intervening time, while it has been a waste, could be easily made up by renewed activity and fresh endeavors."

I was talking with Debs in one of the reception rooms of the Atlanta Federal prison. A large table was between us. There was in the room only Debs, Samuel Castleton, an Atlanta lawyer who has recently interested himself in Debs' case, the guard and I.

Warden Fred G. Zerbst was absent from the prison Wednesday afternoon otherwise the interview would probably have taken place in the warden's private office, where I sat with Debs on two previous occasions.

Debs in Fine Spirits.

The interview was to have lasted only half an hour, but at the end of that time Castleton obtained an extension of another half hour from the captain of the guards. Everything of a currently important nature was discussed by Debs in that hour. He was well informed and in fine spirits.

Debs is making the supreme sacrifice for his convictions. He knows that if he could come out of prison tomorrow if he would say the word to the Attorney General. As a matter of fact he need never have come to prison at all if he had but given the high sign of repentance to the Attorney General.

"I know that is so without the telling," he said. "I can feel in my prison room the vibrations of my Comrades. I can feel the beat of their hearts as one for the revolution, and I can visualize the light that shines in their souls and is reflected in their faces. I am sustained by that knowledge. It will sustain me for a thousand years."

"But we do not wish to sustain you one single day in prison," I put in.

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Baldwin-Felz Frame-up Fails to Convict

By LAWRENCE DWYER.

Oct. 18. Special to Ohio Socialist.

The Jury in the case of Toney Stafford, charged with others in the shooting into the coal tipple at the Glen White mine on Friday, Nov. 16th, 1917, failed to agree after having the case 10 hours, and Judge Mc. Ginnis discharged the Jury at 10 A. M. this morning.

Two weeks time was consumed in getting all the evidence and facts before the jury, I attended the trial from the beginning to the end. The miners showed particular interest in the trial by being in attendance at all sessions of the trial, and while the court house was always crowded no demonstrations was made at any time to interrupt the court, and Judge Mc. Ginnis remarked after the trial it was one of the most orderly courts ever conducted.

The City of Beckley, was crowded with Baldwin-Felz men, the fourth floor of the Beckley Hotel reserved for them, some of them remained in the hotel all during the trial.

The substance of the evidence presented by the prosecution was submitted by Thos. MacGinnis, Geo. Lucas, Dorr Snuffer and Carl Kram, who swore that they, with Toney Stafford

and others were the ones who did the shooting, and the four named above also swore that they shot with the intent to kill, and they further stated that they did not think it was wrong to kill, and also they said they didn't think it was wrong to swear to a lie.

On cross questioning they stated they were in the custody and protection of the Baldwin-Felz men and that their expenses etc. were paid by the Baldwin-Felz, they further stated that they had repeated their statements to the Baldwin-Felz as much as Fifty times, they further stated that Toney Stafford was with them at Lester and Glen White on the 15th and 16th of November, 1917.

The Defense presented seventeen witnesses who swore that Toney Stafford was in Beckley on those dates and was not at Glen White at the time of the shooting.

Lawyers for the prosecution devoted nearly all their argument to the fact that Toney Stafford was an Italian. International Board Member Lawrence Dwyer's name was not mentioned by any of the witnesses during the trial, and the trial brought out the fact that he was no way implicated by the one that confessed to the shooting.

It is the common belief of the people of this locality that the case is nothing more than a frame up by the Baldwin-Felz thugs against the United Mine Workers Organization.

PREVENT THE DANGER OF INTERVENTION

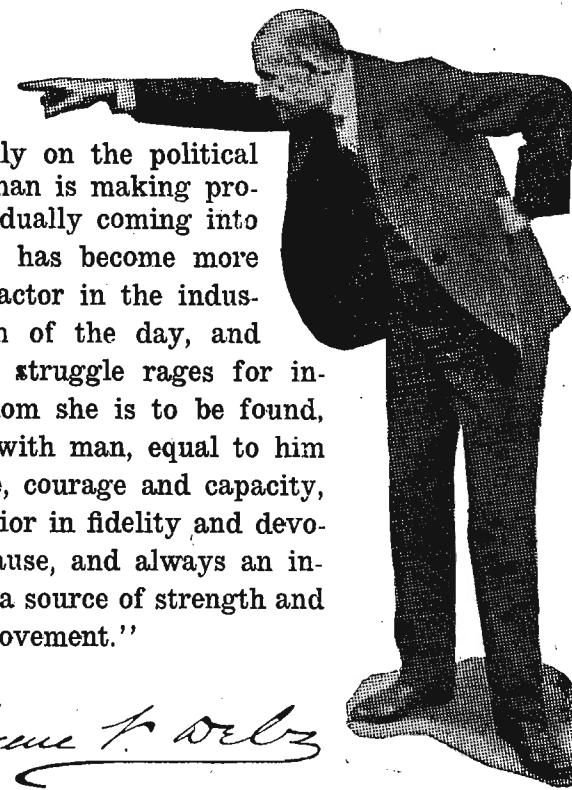
An appeal to American workers.
By Fulgencio C. Luna, Senior

In this great moment of the world's history, the Communist Party of Mexico has a wonderful opportunity to educate the Mexican masses and prepare them for the Dawning Day that is not far ahead.

But the one supreme task that must first be given our attention is that of preventing intervention. If we can keep Mexico safe and free from the clutches of foreign capitalists, we can lead the people of this beautiful land into the full enjoyment of the fruits of their labor, the Dictatorship of the Proletariat and Industrial Democracy. If Mexico is conquered our work will be a thousand times more difficult for we shall then have the whole force of the mightiest imperialist government turned against us. The Carranza government is very liberal and while not Communist, allows the workers considerable latitude in organizing. Labor can develop freely if home.

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Debs says to You



"It is not only on the political field that woman is making progress and gradually coming into her own. She has become more and more a factor in the industrial agitation of the day, and wherever the struggle rages for industrial freedom she is to be found, side by side with man, equal to him in intelligence, courage and capacity, and his superior in fidelity and devotion to the cause, and always an inspiration and a source of strength and light to the movement."

Eugene V. Debs

Debs Anxious to Help Soviet Bureau Warns

(Continued from page 1.)

Only One Way to Free Him.
"Very well, then; let the Comrades carry on the good work everywhere; let them all get into the track for Socialism; let them make their message and their word felt and heard at Washington. When the capitalists of America realize that the workers mean business, then, and not until then, the prison doors will open at once for every political and industrial prisoner behind the bars."

"That is the only way I can come out, and, moreover, that is the only way I want to come out."

Debs reiterated to us on Wednesday his oft-repeated wish that he does not wish any one or any group, or any organization, Socialist or otherwise, to interest themselves in his personal behalf.

He does want, however, the fight to be made on broad-gauged lines, one that would release the scores of I. W. W. prisoners in Leavenworth the same as the Socialists at Atlanta. Debs asked me to say for him that liberty obtained on any other basis would be repugnant to him.

Would Emulate Liebknecht.

"That is the way I want to come out. That is the only decent way. I want to come out as Liebknecht came out. The proletariat of Germany shook the empire to its foundations, and the beasts of Berlin readily found it convenient to unlock the barred doors."

The conversation veered back again to the steel strike, on which subject Debs said:

"I see in the present struggle between the steel workers and the corporation the old battle that has waged with increasing intensity since time immemorial. While I know that the leaders and striking workers do not counsel violence, I am aware of the tactics that have always been adopted by the steel companies, mining operators and other large concerns against their protesting workers."

Always Opposed to Violence.

"There companies have their own police force, which amounts to a private army, and if this private army, like the Pennsylvania State Cossacks, is not sufficient to club the workers into submission, the state or Federal government steps in to make sure the job is done right."

"I had hoped that the steel struggle would be fought without bloodshed, but that is impossible where companies are allowed private armies, and may draw at will upon public military. I have always been opposed to violence and bloodshed."

"I am in this prison today because I refused to forsake the tenets of peace. I believe in the commandment, 'Thou shalt not kill.' Nothing is more sacred to me than human life."

Tired and Haggard After Talk.

I mentioned to Debs the names of a number of his friends who had inquired about his health. To all of his Comrades he sent his love and greetings. The stout guard with boyish face, who sat at the end of the broad table with his hat on and a thick club in his hand, jerked his watch out and announced the end of the second half hour.

Debs stood up at once. He looked tired and haggard. He had exercised himself too much, no doubt.

Outside the doors there was much shuffling of feet, as of men on the march. The guard opened the door, and a long, double file of convicts was marching through a stretch of the corridor into the messroom. Debs could not pass through the door while these fellow prisoners were on the march. He stood with his back to the wall, not two feet from the double column of perhaps a thousand men in prison blue and gray.

We who had just left him could not pass through the opposite door until the last prisoner had come through. I looked back to the wall, close enough to the marching men to have touched their shoulders with his hand.

Man after man in both files saluted Debs by a slight lift of the arm, a quick jerk of the hand or a nod of the head. Not one word was spoken; not one face turned when it passed him. Debs acknowledged the greetings of every man who greeted him, slightly nodded his head by a quick, jerky movement accompanied by a smile. It takes time for a thousand men to pass a given point.

Debs was standing with folded arms.

ADVISING THE IMPOSSIBLE.

With commendable foresight the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor is distributing among 12,000 families under its care, circulars warning against a recurrence of the influenza epidemic. These circulars contain numerous rules of health and personal hygiene which are of great interest, especially when one recalls that they are commended to persons living in some of the worst slum sections of the great metropolis. "Avoid crowds" is the second rule on the list — easily observed, forsooth, by families living thousands to the single block, hundreds to the single house, scores to the single floor, four or five to the single room! Again, "keep the home well ventilated and be sure there is plenty of fresh air day and night" — an easy rule for those to whom air and light are luxuries as rare as tenderloin steaks or silk dresses! "Avoid fatigue," is another injunction — attractive to those who labor early and late at exhausting tasks which never end! "Eat three uniform meals a day" — this at time when the cost of living was never so high, and three meals a day never before so far beyond the reach of the majority of city dwellers! "Keep warm and keep dry" is as excellent as it is surely impossible for those who buy coal by the bucket, and wear clothing about as adequate for protection against winter weather as sheets of paper. As for the succinct command, "bathe frequently," we commend this to anybody familiar with the ablutionary facilities of the average city tenement for fitting comment! An examination of these rules in their entirety convinces us that they could be observed with difficulty by those earning two or three thousand dollars a year — with ease only by those enjoying ten thousand dollars a year or more. When will our physicians, social workers, reformers learn that the poor are not able to practice even the elementary laws of physical and moral health? Shall we never understand that adequate income is the first and fundamental step toward the protection, emancipation and redemption of both the individual and society?

—Editorial in Unity.

The Debs Case

There has been, it seems to me, quite recently a decided change in the entire national psychology. A few weeks ago the persecutory mania which had been developed partly as a result of the overstrain of war conditions and partly as a direct result of malevolent propaganda, reached the climax. The witch-burning fever was at its height.

... The crisis came, I believe, when Eugene Debs was sent to serve his 10-years sentence in the Moundsville penitentiary. The intense wave of feeling which swept over the country when Debs was sent to prison seems to have brought a realization to many, if not all, the leaders of the forces of reaction that they had gone far enough, and perhaps too far.

There were hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of men and women who had loyally supported the government in a war which they believed to be righteous, who had condemned the majority report of the St. Louis Socialist convention, for which Debs stood sponsor, and who had acquiesced even in the arbitrary suppression of free speech during the actual period of hostilities, who nevertheless felt that the imprisonment of Debs for 10 years was unjust and unwise.

They knew that the sentence of 10 years meant for the courageous and gentle-hearted man a life sentence, and they knew also that the revolutionary influence of Eugene V. Debs speaking from Moundsville penitentiary was 100 times more potent than that of Eugene V. Debs speaking from his home in Terre Haute.

These liberals and radicals who deplored the Debs sentence did not want a revolution, but, with equal ardor, they did not want the espionage act converted into what seemed to them an instrument for the punishment of men who were actively opposed to the existing economic and social order.

They knew that active agents of the German government had been given sentences which were no heavier than that imposed upon Debs. They knew that there had not been a single effective prosecution of any one of the thousands of profiteers who, by de-

PRISON NOCTURE

By Ralph Chaplin

Outside the storm is swishing to and fro;

The wet wind hums its colorless refrain;

Against the walls and dripping bars, the rain

Beats with a rhythm like a song of woe.

Dimmed by the lightning's ever fitting glow,

The purple arc-lamps blur each steaming pane;

The thunder rumbles o'er the darkened plain;

The cells are hushed and silent, row on row.

Fall, fruitful drops, upon the parching earth,

Fall, and revive the living sap of spring;

Blossom the fields with wonder once again,

And in all hearts awaken to new birth

These visions and endeavors that will bring

A fresh, sweet morning to the world of men!

Poverty is a beast of prey which chases the song birds of joy and gladness out of the heart.

Competition is a war of individuals for profit; war is a competition of the individuals for profit.

In reconstructing society, shall the worker organize to disarm the despot or shall he wait for the despot to further organize the worker into a bond-slave?

N. C. Howell says —

Activity is the law of life but excessive action becomes an element of death.

N. C. Howell

shoddy and adulterated goods and defective munitions to the army and navy, had done more to interfere with the successful prosecution of the war than would a thousand speeches such as that for which Debs was convicted.

—Basil M. Manly, in Reconstruction.

THE BLACK SHEEP

By Long and Lanky.

Chapt. III. The Awakening.

man, who listens to such discussions he was unfamiliar with its terminology; and hence much of it escaped his understanding.

Finally he broke into the conversation by saying, "I hope you will excuse my ignorance but I wish that you would tell me just what you mean by the term economics? It was Herman who replied, 'economics is the science of management.' I believe you are familiar with the Bible. If so, then you have heard of old testament economy and new testament economy meaning the way in which human affairs were managed during the epochs of these writings. Political economy is the science of managing the state, the legislative, judicial and executive functions of government. Domestic economy is the science of farm management, while social economy is the science of the management of society. Industrial economy lies at the foundation of them all, for it is the management of industry that makes all other social phenomena possible."

"Now" said Jack, "you must tell me what you mean by industry?"

"Industry," Herman continued, "is the organized process of transforming natural resources into necessary commodities."

"Why do you say necessary commodities?" George interposed. "You might have said that industry is a process of wealth production. I think that would be the better definition."

"That is perhaps the better way of putting it," Herman agreed.

"Then, if I understand you rightly, industry is the sum total of labor expended for race preservation and advancement," Jack remarked.

"The kid's got it" Herman said triumphantly.

"But I'm not thru with my questions. I would like to know just what you mean by natural resources?"

"I will try to make it plain to you," said George. "Resources are the raw materials of which wealth is made. The fish in the sea may be considered a source of food. The coal in the earth is a source of fuel, dye stuffs and drugs. The forest uncut, is a source of fuel, shelter and articles of convenience. The unplowed prairies are the source of grain. In the latin language the word 're' means thing, and 'source' means something like place; hence resources correctly defined are the sources of things, the places from which wealth may be obtained."

"If I understand you correctly, you mean by resources only things in their natural state. What would you call finished articles? Isn't grain a source of bread?"

"You must not forget that there is a difference between the terms natural resources and raw materials. A natural resource is always a raw material but it does not always follow that a raw material is a natural resource. For example, iron ore when taken from the mine is the finished product of the miner, but the raw material of the smelter. The pig iron is the finished product of the smelter but the raw material of the rail maker, and so it goes on thru all the process of industry. Dealing with the second part of your question, let me point out that grain is not a free gift of nature but the result of labor applied to the soil. You must always draw a distinction between the meanings of these terms resources, raw materials, and wealth. For the present I want to call your attention to the fact that there is something needed to turn resources into wealth. What is it that turns pig iron, let us say into a steam boiler?"

"Work," said Jack laconically.

"Now you're getting at it. Labor must be crystallized into raw material before we can have wealth. Wealth is any product of labor having a use value. To produce it, three things are necessary. raw material, tools, and labor power. The first is a product of nature, the last is resident in man. These two are brot together thru the medium of the third."

"You might put it this way," suggested Herman, "that resources are natural substances, while wealth or riches are products of labor."

"That is generally but not technically true," George objected. "You do not take into consideration the waste products of labor. For instance, Jack put straw in the fire box, by which he raises steam. The steam runs the machine that tresses the grain, which is wealth is man's gift to himself. These too are the result of his labor, but useless."

"I see the difference," said Jack, "Resources are natures gift to man. Wealth is man's gift to himself. But I notice, that you used the term labor and labor power. Are they not the same thing?"

"No they are not the same thing," George explained. "The steam in the boiler is the result of your labor power expended on the straw. Labor power is the energy stored in your body. It is your ability to work. The result of that work is labor. A miner contains labor. Labor is that element that transforms a resource into a raw material, a raw material into a finished product or commodity."

"Labor power is what you have to sell to your employer. Labor, is the result of the sale. It is the sale of your life energy that lies at the bottom of the class struggle. It's all a problem of economics. Keep this in mind that the capitalists approve in their slaves."

"That is the phase of ethics in which you are interested. Ethics between capitalists is the law of club and fang until that porcupine called labor raises his bristles, then capitalists all make common cause upon their common enemy the militant working class. To do that constitutes their ethics for themselves. Their ethics for you and I are that we shall work cheap, long hours, under conditions that are not expensive to them, that we shall be thankful to God for the fact that while we are miserably poor we are not actually dead, and that when the masters of different lands get into a quarrel among themselves over the products they have stolen from labor that then we shall be ready to enthusiastically kill one another and ask no questions. The capitalist want it so that we will accept crowns, harps, white robes, and much singing after we are dead, in lieu of cash while we live. Ethics, my boy, is like every thing else in capitalist society to be explained upon the basis of the class struggle. It's all a problem of economics. Keep this in mind that the capitalists proclaim as good, that you can safely suspect as bad. If you are ethical to the capitalist class, then you are a traitor to yourself. Does that make the position clear?"

"Yes, I think it does. If I understand you rightly, then ethics is a mode of conduct approved by the masters of the world, is that it?" he asked uncertainly.

For an hour or so the conversation oscillated back and forth between George and Herman. They again reviewed the different race characteristics and the economic and telluric conditions that gave rise to them. Especially did they discuss the difference between the Russian and Japanese. Dwelling much on the possibilities of a civilized orient and a consequent yellow peril. Needless to say the boy was absorbingly interested in the discussion, but as happens with many a

(Continued next week.)

MAY 19

I have had

A war-to-end-war.

I have now made

A peace-to-end-peace.

I think in a big way

(Continued from page 1.)

rule and local self-government continue, for any government by Mexicans will be more disposed to favor labor than capital, since labor is Mexican here and capital is foreign. Therefore, it is very necessary just now for us to direct all our efforts toward the preservation of Mexico's national integrity.

The Communist Party of Mexico is naturally concentrating its energy on opposing intervention and it believes that its comrades in the United States should give a large portion of their efforts to this same cause. We must not allow this crime of intervention to be committed. We must not allow the rulers to hurl the workers into another terrible war. We must prevent them from again demonstrating their power over the toilers; instead, we must demonstrate our class-consciousness and refuse to permit them to make fools of us again.

When the workers of the two countries become sufficiently strong to deter the capitalists permanently from their wicked plot, we shall be free to go ahead with the vaster work of Communism.

With a loaded gun (the danger of intervention) pointed at them, the workers of Mexico cannot do much, so we must remove that gun. Then we can do things for the cause.

CONFERENCE.

Every local in the following counties which have affiliated with either the Communist Labor Party or the Communist Party are invited and urged to send delegates to a Unity Conference to be held at Youngstown Nov. 9: Cuyahoga, Geauga, Ashtabula, Lake, Trumbull, Portage, Mahoning, Summit, Medina, Wayne, Stark, Columbiana, Jefferson, Carroll, Harrison, Tuscarawas, Holmes, Coshocton.

F. J. Cattin,
377 E. Wood St.
Youngstown, O.

prison physicians who has come to know Debs intimately, and who spends much time with him in social chat, had hung his head and looked at the tips of his shoes when I put a searching question to him concerning the health of Debs. He would not tell me, but I was told that a physician who had seen Debs recently said: "He may drop dead any minute."

The shoulders of the humanist were more stooped than than I had ever seen them. There was not that accustomed springy movement in his step. He was tired. His figure disappeared at the rounding of another corridor.

Many of those who passed him were Socialists, and all of them were workers. As the last man swung through the white marble doorway, Debs was swung into the end of the line, bringing up the rear. Two heavy guards, carrying thick clubs, stepped in back of him.

"May Drop Dead Any Minute."

The shoulders of the humanist were more stooped than than I had ever seen them. There was not that accustomed springy movement in his step. He was tired. His figure disappeared at the rounding of another corridor.

Debs was standing with folded arms.

Only an hour before one of the ocean during a storm.

The Ohio Socialist

One Year
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\$1.00 Per Hundred

Six Months
50c

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29th, 1919.

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The Pre-Revolutionary Era

The United States is in a stage of labor up-rising that bring to the foreground the question of their real meaning and connection with world labor movements and their significance. Strike after strike upon a more huge scale than ever before seem to indicate that labor is passing thru its pre-revolutionary stage. The Seattle strike, the steel strike, New York dock workers' strike, the probable strike of the coal miners coming in swift succession and the all disclaiming revolutionary intents are certainly not without revolutionary tendencies. Unconsciously the revolutionary tendencies develop. Labor here is inspired by workers' victories in England, Russia and other parts of Europe, and their significance. Strike after strike upon a more gigue scale than Labor here reacts to revolutionary movements of other parts of the world.

It is not so much what these strike are as what they may become; not so much what the intentions are as what may be learned from them that we are most concerned. No one can prophesy nowadays what a strike of a quarter or half a million men may lead to. The times are pregnant with revolutionary possibilities. Every big strike is a potential revolution, tho it may in its first stages be merely a revolt against the price of bacon and beans.

Recent strikes seems to bear out the affirmation that there is a strong feeling in the ranks of labor that it has nothing to lose by striking. It has no stake in the industries nor in their successful operation. Knowledge of the extent of the robberies perpetrated upon them have made them rebellious, rebellious without responsibility. It is a pre-revolutionary phase. It is not likely to grow better. Only under a system of industrial democracy can the worker feel responsibility. But industrial democracy and capitalism are at opposite poles and can not by any means be brought together.

Property Rights vs. Human Rights

Politically we are more or less free; economically we are serfs. And it is upon an economic foundation of serfdom that present day society is established. A foundation of serfs and masters; of owners and propertyless proletarians. But the foundation is being shaken to-day in a manner that puts terror in the hearts of labors' exploiters.

The right of ownership carries with it the right of operation or non-operation as suits the desire or the convenience of the owner. His right of control is greater than the rights of the dependent workmen to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Factory doors may be closed and kept closed until decay rots them to the ground, the there be ever so great a need for the products of that factory and even tho it means starvation for the workmen.

Property rights are inviolate—human rights are imaginary.

But human rights are coming to the front in these days of the decay of capitalism. Property rights are being challenged upon every hand. The principle that human life and welfare is of more account than mere property rights is becoming more and more in evidence. And upon the development and growth of this idea hinges all future progress of the human race from the savagery and inhumanity of capitalism upward to a more humane social system.

"The right to work" means the right to live, but in this age of machine production and corporation ownership access to the means of production are not guaranteed. Cut off a man's employment and he is severed from his means of livelihood. And herein lies the conflict between property rights and human rights. This conflict is growing fiercer in every civilized land, that is in every country where machine production has supplanted hand methods. And there can be no quarter given. Between these two principles there can be no compromise, for property rights spell slavery and between slavery and freedom there is no room for compromise.

MORE FREE LEAFLETS FOR YOU

The LEAFLET CAMPAIGN is still on. The Army of liberators, composed of comrades from all states in the country, has contributed hundreds of dollars for the purpose of agitating and organizing for the release of Debs and all political prisoners.

As agents for the Army of Liberators we have printed thousands of leaflets. These leaflets must reach the hands and minds of the workers who are as yet apathetic and unconcerned regarding our FREE THEM campaign.

WE WANT TO KNOW AT ONCE how many of these leaflets you can distribute. Do not order more than you can use. If you can distribute a thousand, say so. If you can only use ten, say so—but make sure to order some.

THEY ARE FREE, for the Army of Liberators has paid for them.

Place your order today. Become a live factor in the campaign to FREE DEBS and ALL political prisoners.

PREPAREDNESS

Standing armies are maintained in all of the great cities of the world. Chicago has 5,000; New York, 10,000; policemen. Day and night these men are detailed to keep watch and ward. Over what?

One man in the city of New York has a house that cost \$5,000,000; another used 200 tons of coal to keep himself and his family warm during the winter of coal famine; a woman provided with all of the necessities of life spends nearly \$60,000 for an opera coat; silver gold precious stones, silks, velvets, laces, costly furnishings—all of the most gorgeous luxuries that life affords are at the disposal of the rich.

Men in the same city work 54 hours a week for \$20, and from that \$20 try to support a family of five.

More than 200,000 children go to school hungry; cellars, sub-basements, rookeries and attics are rented at extortionate prices for human habitation.

The rich and the poor live side by side within a stone's throw of one another. The rich enjoying wealth that they have neither produced nor earned; the poor living meanwhile, in hideous destitution.

These conditions existing in Russia, half a century ago led Tolstoy to write, "So the rich gather in one place and settle near other rich people with similar wants in the cities where the gratification of all kinds of luxurious taste is cautiously guarded by an enormous police force."

Men in the same city work 54 hours a week for \$20, and from that \$20 try to support a family of five.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

There is a vast army of conscientious comrades scattered over the country who respond to every call of the revolution. Whether it is to arrange a meeting, to get subscriptions for our periodicals, the sale of pamphlets, the distribution of leaflets, there services are willingly and eagerly offered. They are the Jimmie Higginses of our Movement. They are the ones whose self-sacrifice make possible the spread of our propaganda and the advancement of our Cause. They are the foundation stones of our Movement. Upon them rests the whole programme of our activities. They are the ones who build the revolution. Some time perhaps, we will learn to appreciate these sappers and miners who eternally undermine the foundations of capitalism.

Join them by joining the Communist Propaganda League. Order a bundle of Ohio Socialist. Get subscriptions.

THEY ARE JOINING DAILY

Every mail brings us applications for membership in the Communist Propaganda League. Comrades who realize the value of educating the workers in the principles of our movement are taking advantage of this opportunity to do their share.

There is room in this League for every comrade who is willing to do a little each week for his class. There is great need for the good that will be accomplished by these league members who are laying the foundation of future class and mass action of the workers by first helping them to educate themselves in our principles.

There is need for the good you can do—

Here is the chance to do it—

Therefore, sign the application below and GET ON THE JOB.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

in the

COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA LEAGUE

Realizing the necessity of education and organization of the working-class in order that we may the sooner achieve our emancipation, and of the value of our propaganda for this purpose.

I hereby apply for membership in The Communist Propaganda League.

Enclosed find \$..... for which send me copies of The Ohio Socialist weekly for as many weeks as this sum pays for at the rate of 1c per copy.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

JOIN—SEND A DOLLAR FOR TEN COPIES FOR TEN WEEKS—MORE IF YOU CAN—JOIN

Address: COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA LEAGUE
3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, O.

Mind Your Own Business

No. IV.
By RUBY HERMAN
Acting State Sec'y. of Washington.

One of our oldest Locals made a change in Secretaries the other day. The new Secretary is not a new member of the Local; he has "paid Dues into the Socialist Party" for greater number of years than—well, than I have. Whatever may have been his sins of omission before his election to the Secretariate, he evidently started out with the intention of attending to the Office in an exemplary manner,—so he wrote to the State Office for instructions. This is exactly what he should have done, too, under the circumstances. I only hope he follows the instructions! If he does he will certainly be the best Local Secretary in the State! What appears odd to me is that it should have been necessary for such an old member of the Organization to ask such anxious questions about such simple and oft re-iterated duties of the Local Secretariate. What in the world has he been about, all these years, to not know what his chief Local Servant was doing?

Among the things which he wanted to know was the price paid the State Office, by the Local, for Dues! And he "understood the Local was supposed to report to the State Office; please tell how often this should be done, and in what manner." Also,—he had found a number of "Initiation Stamps" among the Local's property word! I please explain the use of these? And he wanted me to tell him where he could procure a "set of Rules" for Party affairs!

No—don't laugh: I honor the comrade for his frank and earnest efforts to adequately inform himself—at last. There are numerous Local Secretaries, to judge by the nature of their correspondence with the State Office and the general appearance of the Monthly Local Report, are just as ignorant,—and make no effort to improve.

Long hair is not always an evidence of genius. It may be only an evidence of the H. C. L.

Lack of men has tied up the Pacific fleet. Militarism thrives only among the petty bourgeois—and they all want to be officers.

COMMUNICATIONS

ILLINOIS

Dear Comrade Secretary:

The State Convention of the COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF ILLINOIS was held in Rock Island Sunday Oct. 12, 1919. We herewith send you a report of the proceedings. With the holding of the State Convention the Communist Labor Party becomes a mighty factor in revolutionary progress here in Illinois. We stand four square by the Manifesto of the Third International, and will bend every effort towards establishing the program of the Communist Labor Party adopted at the recent National Convention, which has already been sent you.

You want to take part in this work. You want the satisfaction of knowing that when our struggling Comrades of SOVIET RUSSIA sent the call to all revolutionary elements the world over, to unite in the magnificent struggle—perhaps the final struggle—to abolish Capitalism, and capture the world for the workers—you want to know that you were among those. Who answered?

The old Socialist Party failed to measure up to its historic task. At the Emergency Convention it repudiated the Third International by a vote of 61 to 33. It speaks the language of the present government Social Democracy of Germany the government that assassinated Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. Its program is the embodiment of social reform. In a recent official communication issued by its Executive Committee it boasts that "THE SOCIALIST PARTY BELIEVES IN IMMEDIATE DEMANDS." This in the face of the collapse of reformist socialism from the impact of the World War. Even from such a grueling experience, the Socialist Party has failed to learn.

The Communist Labor Party maintains that the "emancipation of the working class must be an act of the workers." They must organize their class power; they must abolish the Capitalist political state; they must make themselves the ruling class, and under their own dictatorship they must develop the instruments with which to build the New Society—the Industrial Democracy. Such is the lesson of the Russian Revolution.

Petty personalities do not enter. It is a matter of basic principles. Socialists of this country must make their stand on one of these two fundamentally opposed viewpoints. And when the crisis comes—as come it will—then it will be well to look back to this moment of decision to see whether our lot has been cast with the Seab-Jemanns and social reform, or with the Liebknechts and social revolution. Comrades! The Revolution calls you! Will you give heed? AFFILIATE WITH THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY.

Dr. M. S. HALT.

ica" will receive scant consideration from the comrades in Washington.

Our State Secretary, who is in the U. S. Penitentiary on McNeil's Island, where he is taking lessons in "Democracy"—writes: "It goes without saying, of course, that my lot is cast with the C. L. P."

Again assuring you of hearty cooperation from this Office,

Fraternally Yours,

RUBY HERMAN,
Acting State Secretary.

—O—

WEST VIRGINIA

Weston, West Va., Oct. 5, '19.

Dear comrades:—At a meeting of the Weston Local today the question of endorsement of "The Communist Labor Party" came up and every member present voted for alliance with that party except one member who asked for time to investigate, but emphatically saying that he did not endorse John Spargo nor Renson nor any one of their followers at The St. Louis convention nor their actions since.

I was recently mixing cement for a porch for my residence and I found in the sand, which had been taken from the river bed small twigs, particles of coal etc. So we had to put it through the sieve to get rid of the dead wood which would have materially weakened the concrete and the coal which would have tarnished it by filling it with black specks which would upon friction leave black holes. In that concrete I desire to say that there can be no permanency in a bad mixture for concrete results.

Individually I am glad the issue is drawn and I have no fear of the good results. Capitalism can not keep from showing its teeth. The columns of every corporation in America are open to Spargo, Russell and Benson. And the plutocracy is short sighted enough to think they can split the party. They are purifying it and paying to get rid of the dead wood and dark specks that would spoil results when we get control of affairs which is not far distant. Let the sifting process be made thorough. Our recalcitrants do not lack funds and will have no trouble in scattering the debris all over the world but when the smoke subsides you will find that the crater through which it was emitted is very small. You can fool all the democrats and republicans some times and as long as they are republicans and democrats you can fool them all the time, but you can not fool a well grounded Marxian Socialist even one time. When the swarm of workers who were driven out of the five settle, be assured that they will not make honey for the drones.

Dr. M. S. HALT.

ILLINOIS STATE CONVENTION

The state convention of the Communist Labor Party of Illinois was held recently. A state constitution was adopted, as were resolutions for unity; demanding freedom for class war prisoners; endorsing "Soviet Russia", the official organ of the Soviet Bureau. Edgar Owens of Moline was elected state secretary. Members of the state executive committee are England, Shipman, Stolar, Doering, with Arthur Procter as state chairman.

The state executive committee went into session right after the state convention adjourned to consider methods of organization and propaganda. It was decided to engage Chas. Baker for six weeks. In a letter to the Illinois membership, State Secretary Owens writes: "You will want the satisfaction of knowing that you were among the FIRST to help in the work of organizing the communists in America. You will want to enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that when our struggling comrades in Soviet Russia sent a call to all revolutionary elements the world over to unite in this magnificent struggle—perhaps the final struggle—to abolish capitalism and capture the world for the workers—you will want to know that you were among those present to answer the roll call."

The C. L. P. can hardly be said to be a month old, yet for the month past, dues stamp orders totaling 14,397, have been received.

C. L. P. state convention of Minnesota will be held November 2.

ASKS U. S. TO ARM HOME GUARD. WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—A bill authorizing the war department to issue rifles, pistols and machine guns to the states for home guard defense was introduced today by Senator Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi, who said the legislation was designed as part of a plan to protect communities against violence by racial elements.

WASHINGTON

—

A. Wagenknecht, Executive-Secretary, 3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, O. Dear Comrade:—The return of our National Convention Delegates has been met with enthusiasm and approbation upon the part of all who have had an opportunity to learn of the accomplishments of the Emergency Convention. Preparations are under way for a State Convention, and there can be doubt in the minds of those who have kept in touch with the Socialist Movement in Washington that the State Organization will vote to affiliate with the National Organization of the Communist Labor Party.

—

By way of illustrating the sentiment which prevails here in regard to that organization which still retains the name of "Socialist Party of America" it is only necessary to quote the following incident:

Adolph Germer is sending broadcast among the membership in this state a lengthy and painstaking explanation of what the claims to be the financial condition of his organization, in which he pleads for funds to ward off "bankruptcy." Upon receipt of this touching appeal the Secretary of Local Gold Bar wrote to Germer, suggesting that he "take up a collection from among the police whom he recognized as delegates at his convention!"

Red Doran is teaching a class in Automobiles and at the same time giving his class a much wider and better course than most any school in the U. S., as he delves always into the why of everything which makes the scholars brush up on their Geometry, Physics, and etc. He is the real McCoy when it comes to teaching.

Ashleigh and Downing are teaching English, which they are undoubtedly well fitted for.

Enrique Magon is teaching Spanish and if a man were to search over the entire U. S. I do not think he could find a more competent teacher. James Solvie is teaching a class in Russian.

BLEEDING MEXICO

By LINN A. E. GALE.

The United States sways back and forth, unsteadily, on the edge of war with Mexico. Unless the Radicals, Liberals and peace-loving people generally, north of the Rio Grande make an almost super-human effort, their country will be plunged into another blood-bath within a few months or even few weeks.

Nothing short of Social Revolution in the United States or England, can permanently prevent intervention, for intervention is the inevitable next move on the program of imperialistic capitalism. Intervention in Mexico, war with England, war with Japan and God only knows what next—they are unavoidable, sooner or later, unless Wall Street's government or Lombard Street's government topples down.

But, while only the Revolution can permanently prevent intervention, it is possible for organized public opinion in the United States to bring such powerful pressure that it will be delayed a year or two. And during that year or two, in all probability, England will have an upheaval. One is imminent there now. It is too early to expect anything like that just now in the United States but Bolshevism in England would hasten the Great Change in North America and affairs might easily get so serious for capitalism in the United States that Wall Street would have its hands full at home. In such a case, intervention would never take place and Mexico would be free to work out her own destiny.

The chief reason why Wall Street wants intervention is, as everybody knows, told in the one word—"oil." It cannot be said, however, from the standpoint of bourgeois governmental procedure, that Carranza's taxes on oil properties have been excessive or "confiscatory." Compared with the rates in Texas and Oklahoma, both rentals and taxes are moderate. The total value of petroleum exports for 1918 was about \$70,000,000, American money, and the official tax for that year, according to Mexican government figures, was \$5,560,198.95, American money, or about 8 per cent of the value of the exports. Hardly an unjust tax, when it is remembered that 54 of the oil companies pay an annual rent of about one dollar an acre, these 54 companies occupying 7.8ths of the oil land under exploitation, and the other 24 oil companies own their own land in fee simple and pay no rent.

However, it is not the tax itself that has stimulated the intervention movement. The petroleum magnates don't like the tax, to be sure and probably it would be reduced some under American rule, but the tax is not the real trouble. If that were the only difficulty, a few grumblers would be all that would ever come of it.

American capitalism is far less concerned about the oil tax than it is about the fear that "Bolshevistic tendencies" are lurking behind it. What Wall Street is really afraid of is, that it lets the oil stand and virtually acknowledges the principle of eminent domain which the Mexican government has proclaimed with regard to oil wells, mines, etc., that same government will some of these days seize the wells and mines and operate them itself.

Carranza is not Socialist nor is his Secretary of State, Mano Aguirre Berlanga, but their sympathies are with the common people rather than with capitalist exploiters. They know what foreign capitalism has done to Mexico. They can see every day in Mexico City what Wall Street did when General Diaz was President—how it erected elegant public buildings that cost millions of dollars wrung from a long-suffering people, how alien contractors received staggering graft on every one of these buildings, how helpless poons were paid niggardly wages for working on them, and how two mammoth unfinished structures, the National Theater and the Legislative Palace, with now rusty iron beams and sinking abutments, testify to the thievery of those capitalists and to the profligate extravagance and corruption of Diaz.

It would not take much to swing Carranza and Berlanga into open espousal of Socialism, or to at least make them put into practice a mild form of state Socialism. That is, if it were not for outside pressure. Just at present there is little danger of any such action because the Carranza government is struggling for its very life. But under ordinary circumstances, there would be a tendency in the direction of more Radicalism that would be at least distinctly uncomfortable for outside capital invested in Mexico.

This is the real reason why Wall Street raves and rages at Carranza and wants American gunmen hustled at once to the border. Morgan, Hearst, et al., do not want to take any more chances with such a government. Who knows but Bolshevism may sweep across another country or two and Carranza may

catch the disease and do a little Bolshevizing himself? Such a possibility is too terrible to be considered with complacency. Such a government is too dangerous potentially to be left alone. It must be overthrown and some form of a stable "protectorate" substituted. So reason Morgan and Hearst—and quite properly from their standpoint.

This uneasiness on the part of the American money kings has been increased not a little in the past few months by certain symptoms that are clearly indicative of growing Radicalism among the Mexicans. William Gates, who wrote a series of articles of a very abusive and unfair nature for the *Worlds Work*, mentioned reproachfully in one of them: "Before me lies a recent Mexico City newspaper with photographs of a poster advertising copies for sale of the Bolshevik constitution on the walls of the government buildings in Mexico and a clerk at the window of the Chamber of Deputies, selling copies. My current Mexican papers are daily filled with increasing numbers of notices of Russian Bolshevik propagandists." Gates is not the only fossilized foreigner who has been perturbed by the fact that Bolshevik propaganda is for the most part unchecked in Mexico.

Just the other day, Secretary of the Treasury Luis Cabrera, who is considered the second most influential man in the Republic below Carranza—Secretary of State Berlanga ranking first below the President—was interviewed by a reporter for *El Demócrata*, a Mexico City newspaper. The reporter asked Cabrera if he did not think Bolshevik agitators in Mexico ought to be imprisoned or deported. Cabrera said "No" and remarked that Bolshevism was an ideal social system but Mexico was not yet ready for it. Perhaps Cabrera would not have made that latter statement if it had not been for the *Damocles*' sword of intervention hanging over the head of the government of which he is an important part. But even if he really made it in all sincerity, the preceding remark is sufficient to show that he is not a "safe" man for Wall Street to permit to have charge of the finances of a large, rich and fertile country like Mexico—that the Mexican government is a "safe" government when it tolerates such a Secretary of the Treasury. It is not enough that he thinks Mexico is not ready for Bolshevism—just now. Wall Street won't stand for a chancellor who thinks Mexico will ever be ready for it!

A worse thorn in the flesh of Wall Street than Cabrera and Cabrera has been honored by being called "pro-German" by New York newspapers—is Secretary of State Berlanga. During the war, Berlanga was persistently opposed to any participation in it and some think he, even more than Carranza, was responsible for Mexico's flat decision not to listen to the siren song of the Allied Committee of Public Information, the oil magnates and American vested interests when they pleaded with the government to help save democracy. All American capitalists consider Berlanga "pro-German"—much more so than they consider Cabrera. Perhaps he was a little "pro-German" in the war. If so, his position was undoubtedly the same as that of not a few Mexicans who told me they wanted to see Germany win, not because they liked the kaiser or the junkers, but because they felt that with Germany victorious, Potsdam would keep Wall Street from gobbling up Mexico—one set of thieves would balance the other and meanwhile Mexico would have a chance to live in peace. If the United States won, they maintained, Wall Street would immediately prepare to seize Mexico. In the light of present events, the idea was not as far wrong as it may have seemed.

But this as it may, it is an undisputed fact that Berlanga is the bitter enemy of alien exploiters. He is a lawyer by profession, a student by inclination, and a temperamental pacifist and democrat, hating alike military trappings and official obsequiousness. The gaudily uniformed soldiers of Diaz and the pomp and display of the Diaz regime are still nauseating memories to him. All thru his career, his hostility to anything militaristic or imperialistic, has been evident. If Mexico is free from coercion in the presidential election of 1920, he may succeed Carranza. There is little doubt that he is Carranza's preference. If he became President, the Mexican government would be still less kindly disposed toward the oil and mining magnates. In fact, Berlanga might decide, some fine day, to make an alliance with Lenin. He might not. Nobody knows. But Wall Street cannot afford to take any such chance and let Mexico elect such a man as its chief executive. Another reason why intervention is necessary.

Two little happenings lately furnish additional proof of which way Berlanga inclines. One

of them concerns myself. I was arrested by order of the Mexico City health department for publishing a Spanish edition of Margaret Sanger's birth control pamphlet, "Family Limitation." There is no law in Mexico against contraceptive information but the health department, which is under the influence of Allied capitalists who particularly hate me, construed a certain paragraph in the book to mean approval of abortion and also claimed that an advertisement in the book of a suppository violated the patent medicine regulations. I was fined 500 dollars, Mexican money, and sentenced to a penitentiary term if I did not pay the fine. I appealed to Berlanga and Berlanga summoned the secretary of the health department before him. What happened, I heard from a witness who said that Berlanga gave the frightened secretary a lecture that he will not soon forget, warning him to take no more orders from foreign capitalists or the American embassy! I was already in the penitentiary, having been railroaded there as quickly as the health department could get a policeman to take me. I did not stay long, however, for very shortly thereafter, the health department was compelled to revoke its penalty and order me freed. This action by Berlanga was taken in the face of a storm of savage articles in *El Universal* and *Excelsior*, the two principal newspapers in Mexico City under the control of Allied money.

The other incident in which Berlanga showed his hand lately, was that of Dmitri Nikitin, who was arrested in Monterrey and conducted to the city of Victoria, en route for Tampico, where he was to have been deported for being a "pernicious foreigner." Nikitin is a Russian by birth, lived in the United States 10 or 15 years and is, of course, a Bolshevik. He is a "slacker" and was conducting a school of languages in Monterrey with his wife, a Mexican lady. He also sold radical literature and advocated Bolshevism. American capitalists "framed" him, getting the police to arrest him in the belief that he was a supporter of Villa. Friends appealed to Berlanga and Berlanga communicated with the governor of the state of Tamaulipas who ordered Nikitin's release. He is now free to pursue his own inclinations and will be—unless intervention comes. These are only little incidents but they are significant.

Another and very important reason why American capitalism wants intervention is the fact that Mexico provided asylum for nearly 30,000 "slackers" from the United States during the war. Nobody knows the exact number but there were probably 30,000 who came to this country. Many have now gone back, many others went to South America and quite a few went to various European countries, hoping to eventually get to Russia. Today there are not more than 5,000 here—probably much less. But the fact remains that these political exiles who refused to participate in what they regarded as an unjustifiable war, were protected by the Carranza government. A few near the border were returned by local Mexican officials who sold out for the \$50 a head offered for deserters, but this was not done with the knowledge or approval of the Mexico City government. Not only were the "slackers" protected from extradition, but they were allowed to engage in Bolshevik propaganda to their heart's content. Allied firms that discharged men on learning just why they were in Mexico, had to pay damages under the Mexican law which forbids discrimination by employers for political reasons. Allied stores that refused to sell goods to "slackers" were forced to serve them or pay a fine. Sanborn's Drug Store of this city was visited by ex-Governor Breda of the Federal District and a delegation of Mexican soldiers a few minutes after one of the waitresses refused to serve "Jack" Johnson an ice cream soda, and "Jack" thereupon had all the sodas he wanted. Pugilist Johnson is neither a "slacker" nor a radical, having left the United States on account of a charge under the Mann white slave act, but this is another instance showing the attitude of Mexicans toward fugitives from other countries. Johnson's color was probably the reason for his chilly reception in Sanborn's, and color discriminations are not tolerated.

There is still another reason why intervention is wanted—a big and influential reason. The Roman Catholic Church, probably no man on earth is more hated today by the Pope at Rome than President Carranza of Mexico, because he confiscated vast church estates and exiled many priests who were robbing the ignorant masses. The anti-Catholic policy of the government has moderated a great deal in the last year or two, in an evident effort to stop the Catholic clamors for intervention. Lately many of the exiled priests have been allowed to return to Mexico, but the church knows that Carranza still

detests it and would not hesitate to completely crush it if his government were free from outside coercion. Therefore, the Catholic Church of foreign countries is, almost to a man, loudly, for intervention, and the Catholic hierarchy of Mexico, with its thousands of illiterate, degraded followers, stands ready to stab the Mexico government in the back while Allied capitalism attacks it from the front.

The stories of atrocities committed against foreigners in Mexico may be dismissed briefly. Foreigners have been treated no worse than Mexicans by the bandits. And if Carranza had been left alone during the years of his administration, there would be few bandits in the country. The cancellation of enormous land grants to political heelers and grafters of Diaz, the division of these lands into small tracts and their restoration to the people, the proper taxation of mines and oil wells and the socialization of certain industries that would have taken place, would have eliminated most of the terrible poverty that is the logical fruit, not of Carranza's policies, but of outside interference. Non-interference would have enabled Carranza to remove extreme poverty and thereby eliminate the banditry arising from it. The other kind of banditry which is the bigger share of it, would have disappeared almost instantaneously, for it is traceable directly to foreigners who supply the brigands with guns and money.

It is common knowledge that oil men in the Tampico district pay \$200,000 a month to Pellaez, king of the bandits of that section. When L. J. de Bekker, an American newspaper man, asked an oil man why he did not refuse to pay this blackmail and appeal to the Mexican government for protection, the answer was: "We can't. Pellaez would blow up our wells if we did. Besides, the State Department at Washington knows each and every payment we make to Pellaez and approves it!"

The simple truth is that the bandits in Mexico get their ammunition from American sources—there is no other place from which they could get it. In some cases the ammunition is sold them in cold-blooded commercial transactions. In other cases it is given them and money is also paid as a bribe, besides, to protect the property of the donors. The same aid given Carranza soldiers would probably protect the givers of the guns and dollars amply, but they would rather help cut-throats, ruffians and robbers than to help a government that the faulty and weak, is honestly liberal and honestly making a hard struggle against uneven odds. The Pellaez bandits in the Tampico region, who protect the property of the oil magnates never neglect an opportunity to dynamite a government railway train or kill Carranza soldiers!

There are a very, very few gangs that loot and murder and that do not get help from foreigners. It is such as these that commit the crimes like the killing of Correll and the others that fill the American newspapers. But, in the first place, these gangs are no more numerous than were similar gangs in the early days of the United States; in the second place, there are more lynchings, "patriotic" outrages and the like committed in the United States, considering population, than there are crimes of these gangs in Mexico; in the third place, if the Carranza government were given the aid that foreigners now give its enemies, the government would be able to exterminate such outlaws; and in the fourth place, the members of many of these gangs are peons who have been cheated by foreigners and who seek revenge by attacking every "gringo" they see. If foreigners had not wronged them in the beginning, they would not be outlaws now.

After all, no matter what Mexico's offenses, they are the offenses of a child, unlettered, abused and enslaved. They are offenses that no nation that is genuinely great and no man who is truly human, can refuse to forgive. Her whole life has been a pitiful series of *serfdoms*, *violations* and *fortunes*. A toy, a mistress, a thrall—this was her role for centuries. At last, freed by revolution, she has been beaten and bruised almost from the very moment she drew her first breath of freedom's air, and her newfound emancipation has been but a ghastly mockery.

Unjust and unrighteous as all wars of capitalist society have been, war with Mexico will be the most wicked and wanton that was ever waged. "War" is a misnomer. It will not be war but rape—brutal, vicious, lecherous, fiendish rape, committed against a nation that has suffered as no nation ever suffered; that is slowly and painfully climbing the steps that lead toward light and liberty; and that, in spite of enforced ignorance and degradation, has never lost the love, laughter and music in her heart nor the democratic dreams in her soul!

—From THE NEW JUSTICE.

Official Bulletin Communist Labor Party

Ruthenberg Again Challenged

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THIRD INTERNATIONAL HEARD FROM

A communication has been received by the Soviet Bureau in New York City from the executive committee of the Third International, which commands the Russian Federation of the Communist Party to cease their ruthless attacks upon the Soviet Bureau.

The Russian Federation of the Communist Party has for months made war upon Martns, head of the Soviet Bureau in the United States. The object was control of the bureau by the federation. This constant attack upon the Soviet Bureau has caused a serious split in the Russian Federation of the Communist Party, 18 branches having either seceded or been suspended for objecting to criticism of the bureau. These 18 branches have organized a Russian Federation affiliated with the Communist Labor Party.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN-COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY

TELEGRAM.—Local Oakland, Cal., a local of 500 members and the largest in the state, joins Communist Party or Party. "Oakland World" our weekly paper, taken over into C. L. P. with us. Only 50 out of the 500 members will stay with the reactionaries.

The "Oakland World" is one of the largest party weeklies in the country. Its circulation of 10,000 per week will make it a power for the Communist Labor Party.

NEW LOCAL OF 80 AT BREEZY HILL.

J. L. Criviston and J. P. Cannon are invading the Kansas coal fields. A meeting held at Breezy Hill, Crawford county resulted in the affiliation of 80 members, mostly Jugo-Slavs. Max Bedacht will also spend a week in that same territory and Cannon assures us of five more locals before Bedacht leaves.

Adolph Germer, now national organizer for the Socialist Party, held a "rousing" meeting in Kansas City Missouri the other day. All of 19 people were present to hear him orate.

Local Boston, Communist Party, and 12 of these were members of the J. Fallo, Secretary P. T. C. L. P.

Makes lame excuse for refusing to debate.

Immediately after the Cuyahoga County delegate convention, where Ruthenberg was publicly challenged to meet Katterfeld in debate before the Cleveland membership, Ruthenberg agreed personally to accept this challenge.

He now attempts to sidestep the debate with the lame excuse that when the delegate body of Cuyahoga County had voted, the matter was settled as far as he is concerned, and accuses those who accepted his personal word in good faith of "cheap trickery."

The Communist Labor Party maintains that the issue was not settled and can not be settled by delegate bodies and conventions. No member can delegate the responsibility for such a decision to anybody else. The question of Party affiliation is one that each individual member must decide for himself in accordance with his own convictions, and the issue is not settled until the individual Party member decides and pays his dues to the party of his choice.

"The National Left Wing Council... shall assist in all ways within its power to secure the election of Left Wing delegates to the Emergency Convention of the Socialist Party..."

"Should the National Emergency Convention prove reactionary and in the control through the assistance of the capitalist police of the moderate and despotic officialdom of the Party; should this Emergency convention rule in favor of the shameful acts of the present autocratic National Executive Committee, then the Left Wing delegates to THIS Convention shall IMMEDIATELY organize a new Communist Party, representing the vast majority of the PRESENT Socialist Party..."

"In the event that the National Emergency convention of the Socialist Party is not called on August 30th the National Council is instructed to hold a convention that will organize a new party then and there in Chicago on August 30th."

The Ruthenberg method is to try to herd the membership en masse into a Party through the actions of officials.

The Communist Labor Party method is to appeal to the judgment of each individual Comrat. Which of these is in accord with Communist principles?

Instead of being moved into the Communist Party like a set of pawns, the Cleveland membership would like to have some information on a number of points.

Why did not Ruthenberg carry out the program to which he agreed time after time in conference with other Left Wing Comrades?

Why did Ruthenberg persuade the Cuyahoga County Committee to give instructions to the Delegates to the Emergency Convention that directly conflicted with the instructions of the State convention, endorsed by membership referendum?

If, as he now claims, he meant when he wrote the State instructions on June 26th that the Ohio delegates should go into the convention called by the Michigan Comrades and the Federations, then why did he sign the following, which appeared over his signature in the Revolutionary Age on August 2nd?

"The National Left Wing Council... shall assist in all ways within its power to secure the election of Left Wing delegates to the Emergency Convention of the Socialist Party..."

"Should the National Emergency Convention prove reactionary and in the control through the assistance of the capitalist police of the moderate and despotic officialdom of the Party; should this Emergency convention rule in favor of the shameful acts of the present autocratic National Executive Committee, then the Left Wing delegates to THIS Convention shall IMMEDIATELY organize a new Communist Party, representing the vast majority of the PRESENT Socialist Party..."

"In the event that the National Emergency convention of the Socialist Party is not called on August 30th the National Council is instructed to hold a convention that will organize a new party then and there in Chicago on August 30th."

At the time that Ruthenberg signed the above document the call of the Russian-Michigan combination of Left Wing bolters for their privately conducted convention on Sept. 1st had already been out for many weeks. If Ruthenberg meant that our delegates should go into the convention of the bolting Left Wing minority why did he not say so? Why did he sign the above statement?

If Ruthenberg means one thing when he says another, then what dependence can the membership place in his present pretensions?

If Ruthenberg had in mind all the time and on June 28th that we

should go into the Russian-Michigan convention, why did he agree on July 20th in the N. E. C. meeting to instruct Wagehnecht as National Secretary to rent a separate hall for the Emergency convention to meet Aug. 30th?

Why does Ruthenberg now propose an Ohio State convention in conjunction with the reactionary locals of the old Socialist Party? Why is he willing to go cohorts with the Germerites?

Above all—Why does Ruthenberg oppose UNITY between the two Communist organizations? Why does he and the rest of the Communist Party officialdom refuse to accept the Unity Conference invitation that has been extended by the Communist Labor Party?

WHO stands in the way of unity of all Communist forces?

These questions are being asked by hundreds of Comrades right here in Cleveland. The issue is not settled until these questions are answered. The demand is gaining ground from day to day that Ruthenberg appear openly before the Cleveland membership to justify his actions in public debate with a representative of the Communist Labor Party whom he has so maliciously slandered.

Ruthenberg is again challenged by the Communist Labor Party to debate before the membership of Cuyahoga County the issue between the two Communist Parties.

Dare he accept?

Dare he refuse?

WORCESTER JOINS C.