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EDITORIAL

RUSSIA'S MESSAGE.

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“**T**O every appeal from glaring wrongs, to reason, to justice, to the nation's welfare, or even to the most elemental rights of the individual,” says William English Walling in his recent work on Russia, “the Government's answer is—some falsehood.”

Mr. Walling calls his book *Russia's Message*. The title is appropriate. Especially appropriate is it in view of the book's appearance at the opening of a presidential campaign in the land when, through the mouth of its two dominant parties, the governing class makes answer to the appeal of the working class from glaring wrongs. All the more appropriate after the answer given by the Republican party in its own platform.

The passage, quoted above from Mr. Walling's work, is a summary of the Republican party's answer to the workers' appeal, and may have been written as motto for the same.

The workers complain that the yoke under which they are being held by the governing class is galling their necks beyond endurance.—The Republican governing class answers with the falsehood that “the condition of the wage workers has been ameliorated everywhere.”

The workers complain that the share that falls to them of the wealth they produce is a declining pittance.—The Republican governing class answers with the falsehood that the “nation's” wealth leaped to \$110,000,000,000, the same being equitably distributed among all the people.

The workers complain that the protective tariff leaves them wholly unprotected.—The Republican governing class answers with the falsehood that the tariff dues go to higher wages.

The workers complain that they are discriminated against through injunctions,

which paralyze their arm in the struggle with their employers and that add grease to the elbow of these in their struggle with their employees.—The Republican governing class answers with the falsehood that there is no wrong committed, on the contrary, only “law, order and patriotism” preserved.

The workers complain that they are excluded more and more from a voice in the administration of the nation's affairs.—The Republican governing class answers with the falsehood of “pointing with pride” to the widening democracy of its “Civil Service.”

As with Russia, where, in Mr. Walling's graphic words, “each lie covers a wrong,” so in America, each of the lies cited from the Republican platform covers a wrong done to the workers.

Finally, as, again in the words of Mr. Walling, “with the growth of the revolutionary movement in Russia all wrong-doers and parasites enjoying a wrongful or unearned income are herding together for defence”, so here, in America, with the growth of the Socialist or Labor Movement, all wrong-doers and parasites enjoying a wrongful or unearned increment, are seen to herd together showing their teeth and seeking strength in the communism of their criminality.

Modern Russia, heaving, as she is portrayed by Mr. Walling, with the birth of freedom and struggling against the nightmare of the despotism of the governing class, does, indeed, send her message to the world at large, America in particular. Nor is there any other country so fit, to-day, to send her message abroad—a message of warning against illusions, of encouragement amidst defeat.

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