THE WORKERS'
# DREADNOUGHT
For International Socialism.

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# SOME PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

The Parliamentary candidate whose fight should arouse greatest enthusiasm is John Maclean who to-day lies in Peterhead gaol under sentence of five years' imprisonment for his advocacy of Socialism. Maclean is fighting the Right Hon. George N. Barnes who has parted company with Labour in order to retain his seat in Parliament. Meanwhile grave fears for Maclean's health are entertained as his wife reports that he is dangerously ill and has become an old man during the ordeal of forcible feeding which has lasted since July.

Two other important candidatures are those of two of the Clyde deportees, Arthur McManus and David Kirkwood.

McManus runs as an S.L.P. candidate, and his election watchword is: "McManus for Revolution."

Kirkwood who stands for the Dumbarton and Clyde Bank Labour Party declares in his address to the electors that the issue of the election is capitalism *versus* public control (we suppose he means Socialism as he announces himself as a Socialist), and rightly says that a permanent peace can only be secured by the transfer of political and industrial power from the hands of the few "to public ownership and democratic control." He further demands the immediate abolition of landlordism and the giving of the land to the people; the nationalisation under democratic management of the industries, warehouses, banks, and food. He urges that all widows shall receive by way of pension, the continuation of the family income from the community, that the Old Age Pension shall be £1 a week at 60 or earlier if permanently disabled, and that the unemployed shall receive the Trade Union rate of wages whilst out of work. He also demands the right of self-determination for Ireland and Scotland. Payment of the war debt he wishes to be arranged by "a graduated levy on all wealth over £1,000 per individual." He concludes: "The war has revealed in all its nakedness, that the capitalist's control of politics makes the nation's extremity his golden opportunity. While sorrow and bereavement are brooding over every other fireside in Great Britain, while the cry of agony in Europe is rising from the throats of millions of little orphans, and bereaved mothers, capitalism stands forth rich beyond the wildest dreams of avarice! Will the idol of Mammon be overthrown? Will you suffer yourselves to be led back into the old Liberal and Conservative paths, to worship at the old shrines?"

## THE MACLEAN ELECTION.

At one of the meetings in the Gorbals constituency where John Maclean who lies in Peterhead Gaol is standing for Parliament, according to eyewitnesses, police note-takers were put out, but on Monday, Nov. 18th, note takers appeared again. The audience prepared to put them out, but a force of about thirty police marched in and stood between the people and the note takers. Still the audience was eager for the fray as they feared the danger which the reporters might bring down upon the speakers, but William Gallagher appealed to the audience to desist, saying if they did so the authorities would send so many police and reporters that the electors would not be able to get in.

What now becomes of the Government's statement that there is no desire to limit free speech during the election?

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The sale of work organised by Glasgow comrades in support of the John Maclean Election fund is expected to raise about £200.

# QUESTIONS OF THE DAY.

## GLASGOW HAILS GERMAN REVOLUTION.

All the Socialist, Trade Union, Industrial and rank and file organisations of Glasgow put off their sectional activities and joined in a procession and demonstration on Glasgow Green on Sunday, November 17th, to hail the German Revolution. There was a huge turn out in spite of the fog.

## RUSSIAN COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES IN LONDON.

A counter-Revolutionary fortnightly magazine is being published in London under the title *Russian Commonwealth*, edited by S. Poliakoff-Litovtzeff. It pleads for the continued intervention of the Allies in order to overthrow Bolshevism, Lenin and Trotsky, and the Soviet system. It states "No Russian government can now, without foreign help, overthrow the Bolsheviks." [Surely that is a proof that the mass of the Russian people supports the Bolsheviki and the Soviets.] It is further stated that some people in the Allied countries may say: "Let us save [should it not be "take"] the oil of Baku and the corn of the Ukraine and let alone Central Russia, where there is nothing to find but famine and pestilence." But this counter-revolutionary magazine argues against this policy, declaring that the "possibilities of Russia are boundless," and that the "less selfish the intervention will be the better it will pay!" The Ufa anti-Bolshevik government, which this magazine supports is described as "a very moderate ministry" in which the three most important offices are given to the right wing. In this magazine Paul Axelrod begins a series of articles intended to show that the Bolsheviki are not acting on sound Marxian Social Democratic principles, but are attempting to give practical expression to the dreams of a Utopian Socialism of an earlier period. It seems to us that theories and predictions must always give place to the accomplished fact, but we must remind our readers that as reported last week from the *Avanti* Axelrod no longer speaks for his party, the Menshevik Social Democrats but for himself alone, since the Mensheviki have now made common cause with the Bolsheviki.

## DEPORTED RUSSIANS.

The Political Emigrant group whose office is 107, Charlotte Street, London, W., has complained to the Home Secretary that several of its members have been deported under peculiarly harsh circumstances. Mr. T. Goldervitch, 3, Cannon Place, E., was arrested at his house at 7.30 A.M. on October 23rd, and taken to Leman Street police station. At 2 P.M. he must leave at once for Russia and his wife, who had come to see him was told that she must decide by 4 P.M. whether she would accompany him. As she was about to undergo an operation this was impossible. At 4 P.M. Goldervitch was taken home in charge of two police officers, and later was removed to King's Cross. The husband and wife had no opportunity to make final arrangements as to correspondence or a future meeting.

## THOSE CZECHO-SLOVAKS AGAIN.

It is reported that Mackensen and his troops on their way to Odenberg in Austrian Silesia came into conflict with Czecho-Slovak forces and were obliged to change their course. Shall we hear presently that the Allies are intervening in the Central Empires, as they have done in Russia to protect those precious Czecho-Slovaks?

## TAKE CARE OF YOUR CHILDREN

The Scottish Farmers' Association are asking Parliamentary candidates to support an amendment of the Scottish Education Act, 1918, to allow local education authorities full power to exempt from continuation classes any boys engaged in agriculture.

## KING OF ITALY AND THE WAR

Salandra, the Italian Prime Minister, announces that King Victor Emmanuel brought strong personal pressure to bear on the side of Italy's entry into the War.

## OLD AGE PENSIONERS.

On Wednesday, November 13th, the Walthamstow League of Rights for soldiers and sailors and their wives and relatives arranged a deputation of the discharged soldiers of industry to the House of Commons. Fifteen men and women, all born before the Crimean War was fought, according to the then Secretary of State for War, "to protect the liberties of all Europe and of the civilised world," now journeyed to the High Court of Parliament to plead for an increase in the pension.

It is an atrocity to leave old people to exist on 7*s.* 6*d.* per week, and the deputation thought that hon. members would appreciate the fact that the workers need food even when they are too old to produce profits for other people.

Coming from Walthamstow the deputation asked to see the local member, Sir John Simon, but he was unable to hear their petition as he was at that moment about to go to the High Court of Justice to urge Lady Dudley's claim to a pension of £9,000 a year. However, with his usual courtesy, Sir John expressed his regret and offered his assistance, which the people thought the least he could do for his neighbours existing on £19 10*s.* a year, to earn his own Parliamentary salary of £400. (Poor simpletons! what is £400 a year to a great lawyer in these piping times of inequality!)

Mr. Byrne told the deputation that he had twice attempted to raise in the House "the deplorable conditions of the Old Age Pensioners." He had been unable to secure a hearing. On the first occasion the members simply walked out; on the second he was ruled out of order.

Mr. Baldwin, Joint Financial Secretary to the Treasury, had stated in the House that he did not think an increase in the Old Age Pension necessary. The deputation made a point of seeing him and they think they have converted him, for, when pressed to do his utmost to secure an increase, he replied: "I will."

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said it was extremely difficult to induce the House even to consider the pensions question. Of what use then is Parliament?

M. H.

# WORKSHOP NOTES. By W. F. Watson.

### *THE HERALD* MEETING AND THE ALBERT HALL.
### THE EFFICACY OF INDUSTRIAL ACTION.

Although I sometimes have occasion to disagree with Mr. Lansbury, I emphatically condemn the action of Mr. Hilton Carter in cancelling the engagement for *The Herald* Meeting of November 23rd. It was clearly a manifestation of prejudice and fear of the growing working-class movement. What if we did sing 'The Red Flag' at the Labour Party Meeting. What if some of us did shout for the release of John Maclean, for the Bolsheviks, for the German workers, and for the abolition of the vile wage system? Mr. Hilton Carter and those backing him up will have to realise sooner or later that the workers are becoming articulate and are chafing at the action of the governing class which, after raising huge armies on the pretext that the British workers were fighting for freedom and for their (the workers') land, are keeping the political prisoners in jail and placarding the streets telling us not to pity the wounded but find him a job. The workers are realising how they have been duped for four years. The action of the E.T.U. in cutting off the electric supply of the Albert Hall, and in expressing their determination to put obstruction in the way of other meetings there, unless, and until *The Herald* meeting was held was an expression of resentment against the attempts of the governing class to suppress free expression of working-class opinion.

And what a splendid example of solidarity and direct action? And what lessons can be learnt from the action of the E.T.U.? They did not decide to put up a candidate to try and capture the Parliamentary machine. Neither did they decide to appoint a deputation to wait upon some minister or other. Their action was both swift and determined. No *Herald* meeting no other meeting. If that was not sufficient, no lights for the whole of Kensington. All this clearly shows where the real power of the workers lies, and the possibilities of developing the industrial weapon are limitless. The authorities have suppressed the Socialist Labour Press and meetings of protest have been held, resolutions have been adopted, and members of Parliament "lobbied." Meanwhile, trade unionists of every shade are still producing and distributing the capitalist rags. Supposing the members of the E.T.U., together with the members of the unions connected with the printing trade, decided that until the Socialist Labour Press was released only the Labour candidates' election addresses and Labour and Socialist papers would be printed! Or supposing the members of the E.T.U., with the rest of the engineering staffs, decided that no lights, lifts, or heating apparatus would be permitted until John Maclean and all political prisoners were unconditionally released!! Methinks such a policy would be very effective.

### THE LONDON WORKERS COMMITTEE.

The next monthly meeting will be held next week, at the Chandos Hall, Strand, W.C., at 11 A.M. It is proposed to commence the meeting with revolutionary songs; but business will commence at 11.30 sharp. All members and intending members are urged to attend. Particulars of the great mass meeting will be found in the advertisement columns. Owing to the generosity of Mr. Gulliver we have been able to secure the Holborn Empire. Comrades! this must be a bumper meeting.

The Conference in connection with the London District Council of S.S. and Workers' Committee which should have taken place on November 16th had to be abandoned because of the illness of the secretary. In view of the circumstances it has been decided to hold the conference on Saturday, November 30th, at 3 P.M. at Chandos Hall. All committees are asked to be represented whether invited or not.

Cedar and Eden Paul's pamphlet 'Bolshevism in Industry and Politics' is now ready and can be had from this office. Price one penny or ninepence per doz.

The Comrades Paul have re-translated the International from the French, and we are printing it as a booklet together with the *Red Flag* and they will be ready within a few days.

The song of the Working Folk or 'Shall Tom Mooney die' is printed on a beautiful card, price 2*d*. We hope shortly to publish the music as well as the words of the International and the Red Flag. *All can be had at 7, Featherstone Buildings.*

## HATS OFF TO THE WOMEN OF KENT.

### A LESSON FOR THE MEN.

According to *The Times* Whitehall was astonished on Tuesday, November 19th, to see 6,000 women workers marching through that sacred street. And they were REAL munition workers not the type created by the pictorial comic papers for *The Times* tells us they were not expensively gowned. The remarkable features of it all is that the demonstration was quite spontaneous. The women apparently did not give the authorities notice of their intention to march through London, and the fact that the women made it quite clear that whether it was legal or illegal for a procession to take place within a mile of the House whilst Parliament was sitting, they proposed to carry out their plan of interviewing the Ministry of Munitions. The fact that the procession maintained excellent order and was loudly cheered by the soldiers clearly shews the business capacity of the women and that they have the sympathy of the soldiers. And all this happens in spite of (or perhaps we should say because of) the "restraining influence" of the N.F.W.W. We are rather inclined to think that the presence of Miss Mary Macarthur was quite unnecessary and that the women could have done equally well without her. But what a glorious example for the men! When, O when, will they take a leaf from the women's book?

We are not particularly concerned about the nature of the demands; we would rather they demanded in an equally determined fashion complete control of Industry; but nevertheless we heartily congratulate the women for their action and we appeal to all other women workers and the MERE MEN to render the Woolwich women every support. We would ask what is the Woolwich Arsenal Shop Stewards' Committee doing towards organising these women along class lines? We sincerely hope the constitution will be remodelled to permit of the active co-operation of both sexes. The gain would most certainly be with the men.

### MY NATIONAL FLAG, SIR.

We have just heard of a remarkably fine incident in connection with the celebrations on the signing of the armistice.

A Russian Comrade celebrated the event by displaying a huge red flag from his window and by sending his two children to school with red flags. The teacher, amazed to see any flag other than the Union Jack, asked the kiddies from whence they got their flags, the reply being: "Daddy gave them to us."

The teacher, alarmed for the safety of the realm, informed the police, and two hefty boys in blue took our Comrade from his work to the cop shop, where he was interrogated in the following fashion:—

STATION SERGEANT: What do you mean by inciting the people to revolt?

OUR RUSSIAN COMRADE: Inciting to revolt!! How? I don't know what you mean.

S.S.: By displaying red flags and sending your children to school with red flags.

O.R.C.: Inciting to riot by displaying red flags? Heavens!! Surely you know my nationality?

S.S.: Oh, yes. You are a Russian.

O.R.C.: That is so, and my national flag is red, just as the Union Jack is the British national flag.

# PARLIAMENT AS WE SEE IT.

November 18th.—Mr. Macpherson does not contemplate taking steps to prevent the arrest and re-sentencing of C.Os., or the discharge of those who are now in military guardrooms awaiting court-martial. But the Military Service Acts should terminate at the end of hostilities, and with them must end this persecution of men ready to brave everything for conscience sake.

### IS IT A DREAM?

Sir Leo Chiozza Money gave an explanation of his resignation. He believes that the only true future for the people of this country lies in the establishment of a Co-operative Commonwealth! He implies that the means of production should be owned by the workers. We feel there is something uncanny in all this. Is he contemplating being the Lenin of Britain, should the workers awake?

### THE PROTECTOR OF THE WEAK!

Members appealed to Lord Robert Cecil on the subject of Armenia. Mr. A. Williams reminded the House that it was the British Government which prevented Armenia from being released by Russia from "Turkish tyranny." Now these people, who know that Armenia and other so-called oppressed States, are longing for liberty ask for Great Britain to interfere. They should be left to work out their own salvation, provided no external power intervenes, Foreign rule never brought happiness to small nations. Colonel Wedgwood said that the Turkish policy was to stir up division in their subject races.

### RUSSIA.

"We must secure that the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus are absolutely free," Lord Robert Cecil said. Does he mean free under British rule? In his speech he also stated that the Bolshevik Government is entitled to "no consideration from the British Government." Surely that Government asks nothing better than that the British Government should leave it in peace. As Mr. Ponsonby said: "Whatever mistakes the Russian people may be making let them work out salvation for themselves without interference from outside." If Colonel Wedgwood is right the electors of this country object to the army being used as a "counter-revolutionary weapon." Let them show their objection by insisting on the return of British troops from all foreign countries now or at least on the conclusion of Peace. "Self-determination" requires no help from without, why should not Russia "determine" if Bohemia may?

### IRELAND.

The same people who cant about justice to Armenians, Kurds, and the rest, sit calmly by whilst Mr. Shortt hesitates as to granting an amnesty to Irish political prisoners.

### WAGES BILL.

November 19th.—A Bill purporting to ensure the same level of wages to workers for the next six months as have been paid up to the present was passed. Employers who do not comply with this are liable to a fine not exceeding £5 for each day or part of a day during which the offence continues. Proceedings against an employer are to be instituted by or on behalf of a trade union. Where have the weakest to seek protection in this case? Non-union workers, for the most part women, are thus shut out from redress.

### "BARKIS IS WILLIN'."

November 20th.—Mrs. Gonne McBride, according to Mr. King, has been advised to return to Dublin to be treated by Dr. Crofton. But Mr. Shortt insists that Dublin was not recommended, and that *he* "is quite willing" *to allow* Mrs. McBride to reside in any suitable place in England or Scotland!

### MILITARY SERVICE.

Mr. Bonar Law: "The Military Service Acts lapse from the date when the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace are deposited."

### END OF THE WAR.

November 21st.—A Bill was passed authorising the King in Council to proclaim the "termination of the War." "The date so declared....shall not be later than the date of the exchange or deposit of ratifications of the treaty or treaties of peace....."M.O'C.



# BETWEEN OURSELVES. By L. A. Motler.

Last week I descanted (good word!) on certain gentlemen of our new nobility; and now there thrusts itself on our vision the newer, viz. and to wit, Viscount Cave. He has an appropriate surname and only lacks the fuller spelling, Caveman. That is his epoch, the age of the big stick with a hefty stone bound at the business end. His latest oration (*Daily Graphic*, November 19, 1918) touches the retirement of dear Lady Dora, to whom he is prepared to say good-bye, with certain reservations. For, quoth the Caveman, there is still the menace of Bolshevism which remains to be dealt with, this being part of the insidious Hun's sniping apparatus. Some little while ago it was in the baggage of Litvinoff, but as he has gone back to that happy land whose Government's policy, according to Balfour (November 18th, 1918), is "one of extermination by starvation and murder and wholesale execution," some other goat has to be found. The venerable Viscount does not wish to see Bolshevism rear its head in this country where seven million workers will presently be turned out of the employment of a grateful Government. In this he is in full accord with Lord Milner (October 17th, 1918), "that we do not wish to see Bolshevism and chaos rampant in Germany." The Bolshevist, then, is more deadly than the Hun, and it would be interesting to know what was found in the trunks of the departed Litvinoff. "The cross marks the spot where the body was found" ought to have had a place in the picture papers that published an excellent imaginary Hun medal coined for the Lusitania.

But the Big Boss of up-to-date journalism is ready to assure us (October 22nd, 1918): "That there is a real danger of social upheaval—Bolshevism or revolution, or whatever you like to call it—in this country or any other Allied countries if an unsatisfactory peace is made." Still the Lord of the Isle of Thanet is a man of humour, for he once informed an incredulous world that the Kaiser's word is better than another man's bond. That was somewhat far back, in 1911 to be exact, but he still preserves his natal gift. On the 13th inst. we were informed that the Crown Prince was assassinated by his own men. His body was found shot and bayonetted in a train. The next morning the corpse rose up and motored over the Dutch border heavily disguised with enormous goggles. On the 16th he was interned in a Castle in Holland, and no doubt he will be decently interred when things grow slack.

The gift of humour is not confined to the Carmelites, however, for we find the democratic Mr. Hulton of *The Evening Standard* giving out in a neat heading (November 12th, 1918): "Return of Joffre. Reported arrival in Berlin To-day." But he who runs would misread, for we find in the text that it is not the gallant Marshal of France, but the insidious M. Joffe, the Bolshevist Ambassador, whose courier indiscreetly allowed one of his mail bags to burst, exposing pernicious appeals in the Hun language inciting to Bolshevism on a large scale.

The same issue is quite a gem in its way, is the "Standard," for 'A Londoner's Diary' gushes with the refrain of 'Tipperary' in a new form, thusly:—

> It's a long way to Tipperary,
> But we've got back home at last;
> Cheero, Piccadilly,
> Good old Leicester Square.

We were not aware that the above places were part of our war aims, but doubtless "A Londoner" knows better. After avenging the (alleged) atrocities of Liege and other places, it is no doubt soul-consoling to get back to such moral places. Is the French *poilu* equally elated to find on his return the Moulin Rouge and Montmartre where they were?

Certainly Dora is not needed to keep a vigilant eye on such comic papers, which are decidedly harmless. It is, of course, quite another pair of sleeves, as the French say, when it comes to Bolshevist, or at least pro-Bolshevist, papers that are subsidised from Germany (*vide* Viscount Cave). As Mr. Tyson Wilson remarked (November 15th, 1918) "the working classes had accepted the situation of restrictions upon their liberties and interference with freedom of speech during the war." They had doubtless also accepted, with several signs of cheerfulness, the decrease of the sovereign to 8*s.* 7*d.* (*Labour Gazette*, November, 1918) and the increase of food prices to 133 per cent since July, 1914. It is only Bolshevists who would publish satirical comments on the item in *The Star* (November 14th, 1918) anent 'Big Businesses Joined,' touching the amalgamation of the armament firms of Dick Kerr & Co. and Coventry Ordnance Works (a private company with shares and debentures amounting to £1,400,000).

As I mount the marble steps of THE DREADNOUGHT offices on pay day and draw my five pieces of German gold (Viscount Cave) or Bolshevik boodle (*Express*, November 18th, 1918), as the case may be, I think of the high cost of Viscounts and sigh.

L. A. MOTLER.

# SOCIALISM IN FRANCE.

### FOR THE RESUMPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL.

In *l'Humanité*, M. Cachin asks whether the workers, peasants and wage-earners in general, are going to allow diplomats and the bourgeois ruling classes to be the sole masters in deciding the future of the world. We cannot but applaud such a bold question. Everywhere Nationalism, Imperialism if you wish, (we will call it Capitalism) is the same. It has caused this world-war that has just come to an end, and now that it is over, it tries to make us come back to pre-war conditions, exploitation and subjection. All over the world there is but one hope and one fear: Bolshevism or Imperialism, *i.e.*, Socialist Revolution or Capitalism. Already the bourgeois press, bourgeois agents on nationalist platforms, churchmen and the like, are out for the destruction of Socialism. On the other hand, in France, Bolshevism is in the atmosphere. The workers feel that there is something wrong in the present state of affairs. They cannot exactly say what, but when they can, they turn their eyes to their leaders and expect the latter—to lead. But, in France as well as here, the Leaders are either too timorous, or temporisers, or both. The leaders will never give the workers of the world the word the latter are expecting to hear. They did not do it in Germany. Workers and soldiers will have to begin and then the Leaders will come. Shame on such Leaders!

There is, however, a great hope of being able to prevent Capitalism having its way and that is by proclaiming the resumption of the International. *Le Populaire*, with Longuet and Paul Faure at its head, the *Journal du Peuple* and hundreds of other provincial papers, Socialist and Labour publications, are aiming at that. But, unfortunately, the timorous Leaders are still hesitating to proclaim the final watchword. Why? The workers will answer by kicking them out when the day comes. Then Havelock Wilson, Gompers, Albert Thomas, and others will lie in peace and oblivion, or join the Capitalists who will be allowed to live—a right they have denied to us—as we do not wish to kill any one, but to make them work, as we do.

Some of our French Internationalists are still blind. Henri Fabre, in the *Journal du Peuple*, to our disappointment, goes as far as to say that the man to whom we must look forward for a watchword is President Wilson. Fabre is, unconsciously, the dupe of the Capitalist game. We know that Wilson is the tool of Capitalism, and we see him, now better than ever, playing into the hands of the Imperialists. Was he not the first man to say that we must now feed the Germans, our beaten foe? Does it not mean that this is a pretext to kill Bolshevism? We did not feed the Russian. Fabre should remember that it is too late to kill Bolshevism. The workers of the world are becoming too rowdy, and soon we may see young and unknown Leaders taking the place the old Leaders do not fill well. Capitalism has committed suicide; Social Revolution is born; the red flag is flying all over Russia, Germany and Austria!

*L'Humanité*, over and over again, deplores the disunion prevailing in the Party. Deploring an evil does not remedy it. Why lament over anything that one cannot prevent? The Majoritaires do not give way. They are bourgeois Socialists, and they stick to their old prejudices although they are beaten by the International Socialists: hence disunion. O Cachin, O Compère Morel, the remedy is within your reach: join the Internationalists, fight for the Social Revolution and help us to destroy what is already dead and what we will bury to-morrow: CAPITALISM! Your resistance is futile and vain and your tears will not prevent the volcano from coming nearer and nearer to the day of eruption.

### VOX POPULI.

While the workers of Europe are taking their own destiny into their own hands, and smashing crowns and destroying the sword, the ultimate hope of Capitalism, some conscious papers, *Le Populaire* and others, are gathering together all the fighting and organised labour forces of France for the great and ultimate battle. In the meantime, the ruling classes are blackmailing Labour and Socialism, which they call Bolshevism. Their plan is to crush Social Revolution and they are already refusing the Labour papers, the only papers that are not in their hands, the right to declare the workers' claims. But will the British, French and American workers allow Capitalism to come to the surface? If the information that has just come to us is true, this will not be the case. We learn that the French Confédération General du Travail and the French Socialist Party have officially sent their congratulations to the German Workers' and Soldiers' Council on its recent success against Capitalism. It is but a sign of the times, but it counts just the same.

### SOCIALISM IN FRANCE HAILS THE GERMAN REVOLUTION.

The Socialist Party organised a great meeting in Paris to celebrate the German Revolution. Liebknecht and Fritz Adler were elected "Presidents d'Honneur."

Cachin named the Social Revolution, and the big hall, in which thousands of people were assembled, resounded with thunders of applause Jouhaux wished that the French workers be called upon to resist capitalist enterprise. Longuet was saluted with frantic applause. He asked the workers of the Allied countries to join with the workers of the world to stop by any means any effort made to crush the Revolution throughout the world. Capitalism must not interfere with the revolutionary countries. Human and socialist words, at last! Merrheim, a strong and stern internationalist and trade-unionist, said that the day is coming when France will join in the revolutionary movement. But, he adds, the workers must then strike the final blow and definitely crush Capitalism. Frossard wants the resumption of the International, whose hour will never pass until the Socialist Republic rules the whole world.

### AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS.

Two meetings were held in Paris recently asking for the release of all political offenders now in gaol. But so far, only talk, talk. When will there be a general strike, when will the final blow against Capitalism be struck? Threatening is out of date.

W. RUNAN.

... said that if the Pensions Ministry ... use of the machinery already ... there might be reason in the Bill, ... right it had to claim more ... position the Bill was read a ...

### JOHN MACLEAN.

We now learn on good authority that since last July John Maclean has been on hunger strike and undergoing forcible feeding. Is this country to be the last in granting reprieves. Germany has shown the way by freeing Karl Liebknecht, whose popularity has been increased enormously by the unjust treatment meted out to him. ...

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# THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT

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# SOCIALISM OUR GOAL.

## WILSON'S REPORTED THREAT TO RE-START THE WAR.

London, Tuesday, November 19th.—According to telegrams from Berlin, President Wilson has informed the German Government, through a neutral intermediary (wires the Stockholm correspondent of *The Morning Post*), that the maintenance of order in the interior of Germany is one of the conditions of the armistice, and that if Joffe is allowed to return to Berlin or any other representative of the Bolshevik Government in Russia is received there, notice will immediately be given of the resumption of hostilities.

This reported threat of President Wilson that the Allies will terminate the armistice and resume hostilities, if a representative of the Bolshevik Government is received in Germany, accompanied as it is by a reference to "the maintenance of order" in Germany, is a warning against any attempt to overthrow Capitalism and to establish Socialism in Germany, and against all fraternisation with the Russian Socialists, or (let us be punctiliously accurate) with those Russian Socialists who wish to establish Socialism now.

That the threat is reported to have been made, not by Lloyd George, Clemenceau, or Salandra, but by President Wilson, should surely undeceive those Socialists who, ignoring the great efforts of such heroic workers for International Socialism as Lenin and Liebknecht, have concentrated their faith for the realisation of a Peoples' Peace upon President Wilson. The President is a capitalist politician and would certainly not have been chosen as leader of the American Democratic Party, of Tammany fame, if he had been a Socialist. Wilson, to do him justice, has often said that he avoids a pioneer course and acts in conformity with the general body of opinion in his party. The American Democratic Party is a party of capitalistic ideas. Quite naturally, in view of that fact, it will never take a step in the direction of Socialism except under strong popular pressure. To praise the President for his very frequent indulgence in the usual oratorical platitudes (in which, by the way, most hide-bound reactionaries frequently excel) can do nothing whatsoever to advance the cause of Socialism.

### GERMAN GOVERNMENT RENOUNCES RUSSIA.

Copenhagen, Monday (Exchange Telegram).—Owing to the attitude of the Allies, the German Government has informed the Russian Government that it does not wish to receive any Russian Minister.

This weak acceptance of the reported ultimatum means more than a mere refusal to enter into relations with the Russian Soviet Republic, though that betrayal of the International is both sad and serious. It means that the German Social Democratic Party's Government acquiesces in the ban against Socialism.

Some of its members perhaps accept this position willingly; perhaps they are convinced that Socialism cannot as yet be established, and that it is not wise to attempt to do more than introduce palliative reforms within the capitalist system. Others probably obeyed the ultimatum with reluctance, simply in order to avoid the renewal of hostilities. When Kerensky was Prime Minister of Russia, a representative of his Government who visited this country, told us that he and two-thirds of the Russian Socialists desired to make an advance towards Socialism, but feared to do so, lest the result should be the invasion of Russia by the Allies, and especially by Japan. The Bolsheviki at that time only numbered one-third of the Russian Socialists. Since then we have seen the growth of Russian Bolshevism, till, according to Mr. Louis Edgar Browne, the Russian correspondent of *The Chicago Daily News*, Bolshevism commanded the support in April, 1918, of 95 per cent of the soldiers and 80 per cent of the workers and peasants. We have also seen the Bolsheviki establish great measures of Socialism—and we have seen the invasion of Russia by the Allies, including Japan. Every prediction has been verified, yet the Bolsheviki still maintain their ground.

When the news first came through that the Allies were warning the German people off from any approach towards Bolshevism, it was stated that the Allies would only send food to the starving people of Germany on that condition, but it has since been announced that Mr. Hoover, the American Food Controller, is of opinion that Germany can feed herself when the Allied blockade is lifted; and, whilst the sterner threat of renewed war is made to Germany, the threat of withholding food supplies, in the event of Socialist revolution, is made to neutral Holland. *The Times'* Hague correspondent, on November 18th, wrote:—

"The fear of revolution seems to have passed away in Holland. The Government's firm attitude, together, perhaps, with the very natural disinclination of the population to be without food supplies from the Entente, which would have been one of the immediate penalties of revolution, has had a sobering effect."

Indeed, there is no shadow of doubt in our minds that the Allied Governments are definitely setting themselves to fight the growth of the Socialist Revolution wherever it appears.

On November 20th Hindenburg telegraphed to the Berlin Government that the Allied members of the Armistice Committee, especially the French, were growing less courteous, demanding impossibilities, and that the French were probably anxious to find a pretext for resuming hostilities. (This reads like an echo of Brest-Litovsk.) The enemy Governments, he said, "are only prepared to conclude peace with a German Government which is supported by the majority of the people." That is what was said about Russia when the demand for intervention first arose; now the stipulation is for a government which recognises the right of property. Hindenburg probably sympathised with the Allied dislike to Bolshevik Socialism.

### THE GERMAN SOVIET IN CONTROL. WILL THE WAR BE RESTARTED?

But the possibility of which Wilson and Hindenburg are reported to have spoken has become a reality. The German Workers' and Soldiers' Council (Socialism on the Bolshevik model) is reported to be in control of Germany. Is the War then to be restarted? What have the workers and soldiers of the Allied countries to say? The matter lies in their hands. What is their decision?

The history of the Russian Revolution has been repeated in Germany, but the events which took place during months in Russia, in Germany have been crammed into days.

A Reuter message of November 15th, published in *The Daily Telegraph*, reported that the differences were disappearing which had severed the old Majority Social Democrats, who supported the War, and the Independent Social Democrats, who joined them in forming a Coalition Government. The Spartacus Party, the Party of Liebknecht, was said to be growing more unpopular ("unpopular" with whom?). The message said:—

"Herr Liebknecht has been removed by Government troops from the Palace, where he had taken up his residence. Rosa Luxemburg's removal from the *Lokalanzeiger* offices took place 'in no gentle manner.' The correspondent adds that non-Bolshevik elements are becoming more and more dominant, and that the soldiers are opposed to the formation of a Red Guard. When a member of the Executive Council of Workers and Soldiers, addressing the soldiers, asked: 'Are you Socialists and Workers?' the answer given him was: 'We belong to no party. We want only safety and unity.'....A hopeful feeling about Germany's future is beginning to prevail in bourgeois circles. Field-Marshal Hindenburg's attitude in the present circumstances is much appreciated."

The Russian Bolshevik leaders also occupied a palace; they too were dislodged; they even became fugitives.

On November 23rd all telegraphic communication between Germany and Switzerland was stopped. One of the last messages that came through beforehand was a quotation from *The Red Flag*, the Spartacus Party's organ, stating that "the commandant of Berlin, 'Wells' [an English name?], had ordered a strong body of troops to Berlin to suppress the Spartacus movement, and, at the first favourable opportunity, to crush it with machine-guns." *The Red Flag* called for immediate action against the counter-revolution.

In Russia the Korniloff-Kerensky plot, and the plans forcibly to dissolve the Soviet and disarm the Bolsheviki, preceded the successful Bolshevik revolution of a year ago.

In Germany the call of *The Red Flag* was responded to. A struggle took place. Now comes the message:—

"The whole control of the country is now in the hands of the Workers' and Soldiers' Council. A Congress of Workers' and Soldiers' Councils is to be summoned as soon as possible. At present there is no talk of a National Assembly."

That means that another Socialist Council is established; another Parliament is dead.

The struggle is not over. Ebert and Scheidemann are demanding a Parliament of the old kind and are said to have the support of a part of the army. We gather from the press telegram that an attempt is being made to create antagonism to the Workers' and Soldiers' Council because it is situated in Prussia. Such an attempt must assuredly fail, because the special virtue of the Soviet is that it is a delegate body, built up from below, deriving its authority from the co-operation of every worker in every industry in all parts of the country. It is not a centralised, inelastic autocracy imposed from above.

The struggle is not over, but there is no shadow of doubt in our minds as to the result, for this is an evolutionary world movement, which was from the first inevitable but the birth of which has been hastened by the War. *The Daily News'* correspondent, on reaching Munich, was surprised, not by gloom and lamentations for the lost empire, but gaiety and hope. Of course this is so, for the German workers have lost nothing; they have won all.

### THE WAR IN RUSSIA.

A grim struggle against the Soviets still continues in Russia and into the Far East, for the Soviet ideal is spreading thither. The War Office announces that American, British, and Canadian soldiers are attacking the Bolshevik forces on the Dvina. *The Times'* Tokyo correspondent reports that 60,000 American soldiers are to be stationed on the Chinese Eastern Railway. That railway was originally built through Chinese territory by the Czardom, and, policed by Russian soldiery, was a means of Czarist domination over the Chinese. The Soviet gave the railway back to China. It is now the Allied line of communication with Russia. The United States is said to be about to erect a barracks at Kharbin to accommodate two regiments.

But the Bolsheviki maintain their ground; even *The Times* admits they control the whole of Central Russia, and possess "many arsenals and great quantities of material." In our faith in their ultimate victory, however, we do not rely on their arsenals and munitions; but on the widespread conscious determination to retain the Socialist Soviets of what, in our opinion, all definite information from Russia proves to be the immense majority of the people. The forces opposing the Bolsheviki are by no means united.

### THE "DEFUNCT SIBERIAN GOVERNMENT."

*The Times'* Omsk correspondent refers to "the defunct Siberian Government," and asserts that "troops and ammunition are being kept back to serve political ends"; that certain reactionary generals appear "quite independent

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# BOLSHEVIKI AND THE PRESS.

### DECREE ON THE PRESS.

In the serious and decisive hour of the Revolution, and in the days immediately following, the Provisional Revolutionary Committee was compelled to adopt a whole series of measures against the Counter-Revolutionary Press of all shades.

All at once, from many sides, the cry went up that the new Socialistic Authority was violating in an attempt against the freedom of the Press, the essential principles of its programme.

The Workers' and Soldiers' Government draws the attention of the population to the fact that in our country, behind this liberal shield there is hidden the power of the ruling-class to seize and keep in its hands the lion's share of the whole Press. The bourgeoisie is thus able to poison the mind and to bring confusion into the growing consciousness of the masses.

Everyone knows that the bourgeois Press is one of the most powerful weapons of the ruling-class. Therefore, at the critical moment, when the new authority of the workers and of the peasants was in process of consolidation, it was found impossible to leave this weapon in the hands of the enemy: a weapon no less dangerous than bombs and machine-guns.

That is the reason why temporary and extraordinary measures have been adopted, for the purpose of stopping the stream of mire and of calumny under which the "yellow" and the "green press" would gladly drown the young victory of the people.

As soon as the new order shall be consolidated, all administrative measures against the Press will be withdrawn: full liberty will be given, within the limits of responsibility before the law, in accordance with the broadest and most progressive regulations issued on this matter.

Bearing in mind, however that any restriction of the freedom of the Press, even in the most critical moments, is only admissible within the bounds of strict necessity, the Council of People's Commissaries decrees as follows:—

### GENERAL RULES ON THE PRESS.

1. The following organs of the Press shall be subject to suppression: (*a*) those inciting to open resistance or disobedience to the Workers' and Peasants' Government; (*b*) those sowing confusion by means of obvious perversion of facts; (*c*) those inciting to acts of a criminal character punishable by the penal law.

2. The temporary or permanent closing of any organ of the Press shall be carried out only by a resolution of the Council of People's Commissaries.

3. The present decree is of temporary nature and it will be revoked by special ukaz (decree) when the normal condition of public life shall be established.

*Chairman of the Council of People's Commissaries,*
VLADIMIR OULIANOV (LENIN).

Petrograd, October 28th, 1917.

### DECREE ON THE WORKERS' MILITIA.

1. All the Soviets of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates shall form a Workers' Militia.

2. The Workers' Militia shall be fully, and exclusively, under the orders of the Soviet of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates.

3. The military and civil authorities are bound to render assistance in arming the workers' militia, and to supply it with all technical information and the munitions belonging to the War Department of the Government.

4. This law is to be promulgated by telegraph.

*People's Commissary for the Interior,*
A. I. RYKOFF.

Petrograd, October 28th, 1917.

### DECREE ON ADVERTISEMENTS.

1. The printing of advertisements in periodical journals and newspapers, in handbills, &c.; likewise the display of advertisements in kiosks, on walls, advertising offices, &c., shall be, from now, a monopoly of the State.

2. Advertisements may be printed freely only in the publications of the Provincial Workers' and Peasants' Government, and in those of the local Soviets of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates. All other publications, in which advertisements should be inserted, without permission from the above mentioned bodies, shall be suspended.

3. The owners and editors of newspapers, of advertising agencies, &c., and also all their employees shall remain at their post until such concerns have been taken over by the Soviets. They shall be responsible for the good management and the continuation of the work, and for the handing over to the publications of the Soviets, of all money paid for private advertisements, of the text of the advertisements themselves, together with all documents and accounts relating thereto.

4. Managers of publications and advertising agencies dealing with any kind of paid advertisements, together with all their employees, shall form Unions in each town, and later on an All-Russian Union, for the efficient organisation of the business of receiving and placing private advertisements in the publications of the Soviet; and for the elaboration of rules as to the best methods of receiving and printing such advertisements that would prove more convenient to the population.

5. Persons guilty of holding back any document or sum of money; or of refusing to comply with regulations 3 and 4, shall be punished with the confiscation of their property, being further liable to a term of imprisonment not exceeding three years.

6. In private publications, the insertion of advertisements for a consideration, either in the form of reports, or of puffing paragraphs, &c., entails the same penalty.

7. All advertising offices, agencies, &c., shall be confiscated, upon payment to their owners, in case of need, of a temporary subsidy from the State. The owners of small businesses, and all sleeping partners or shareholders in all confiscated firms, shall be compensated in full.

8. All publishers, advertising agencies and printing offices where advertisements are printed must immediately inform the local Soviets of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates of their places of business and proceed forthwith to hand over their accounts and advertisements, under penalties mentioned in paragraph 5.

*Chairman of the Council of People's Commissaries,*
V. OULIANOV (LENIN).
*People's Commissary for Instruction,*
A. V. LUNACHARSKY.
*Countersigned: Secretary of the Council.*
N. GORBOUNOV.

November 12th, 1917.

## LABOUR PARTY PRESS BUREAU AND BOLSHEVIKI.

The Labour Party Press Bureau says of the coming Election: "The Labour Party enters into the contest which has been forced upon it with the resolve to win support for its programme of social reconstructon as a safeguard against both reactionary and revolutionary violence.... Nothing is better calculated to drive the masses of the workers in the direction of Bolshevism than the triumph of reaction during the Election."

If this statement were well-founded we should fervently hope for the triumph of reaction at the polls, since Bolshevism would shortly sweep onward to further progress. We ask nothing better than that the masses of the workers shall become triumphant Bolsheviki. We emphatically protest against the slanderous treatment of the heroic Russian Socialists by the Labour Party's Press Bureau, as well as against its sinister juxtaposition of violence and Bolshevism. This communiqué closes with the following ambiguous sentence: "For months past the Party has been re-organising its machinery on a broader basis in order to attempt the conquest of political power on behalf of the whole people, and to complete in the economic sphere the social revolution which has already brought such wonderful constitutional and political changes throughout the world."

What does this mean?

## SWISS SOCIALISTS.

Swiss Socialists have decided to meet on Dec. 1st to consider a general strike. A message from Analese Ruegg in Zürich runs: "One and a half million workers struck for seven days ending November 4th. But nothing is gained but some promises for the future and an 8-hour day for the Canton Zürich."

# AN APPEAL TO THE YOUNG. By James Stewart.

### III.

### THE CLASS STRUGGLE.

*"Our Ideal, the abolition of Wage-slavery."*

This antagonism of interests between the working class and the master class, is called the class struggle. It is expressed at present in a desire on the part of the workers to have a larger share of the wealth they have produced, and on the part of the employers to get the workers to produce more and more wealth for them and to get a larger share of the wealth that is produced. It will be evident to you that the employers and the workers cannot both get a larger share of the wealth. As one writer put it: "If the worker produces £4 worth of wealth, and the capitalist takes £2, there are only £2 left for the worker; if the capitalist takes £3 there is only £1 left for the worker. If, on the other hand, the worker increases his portion, it lessens the portion that the capitalist, the employer, will get."

You cannot divide an apple between two people and give each the larger portion: you cannot divide the wealth between the workers and the employers and give each the larger portion.

Now just as the workers learn to understand the Class struggle, and all it means; so will they surely make the demand not merely for a share, but for the ownership of the wealth produced. Further a knowledge of the Class struggle will prove that the demand for the ownership of the wealth produced cannot be separated from the demand for the ownership of the entire means of wealth production.

Now look back again into the workshop; you see all your fellow-workers assisting in the production of wealth, all desirous of improving their position by increasing their wages, and all striking to shorten the hours of labour.

### THE UNION CARD.

*Our flag is raised above us so that all the world may see*
*'Tis labour's faith and Labour's arm alone can Labour free.*

After you have been at work for a while, say a few months, you will hear the men and women talking about the union, and what it intends to do to aid the workers in their demands for better conditions. You will notice that they have cards, and that they give the cold shoulder to any worker who does not possess a card.

When your fellow-workers talk about their union and show their union cards, it means that they are part of the organised Labour Movement, and it will be your duty to join a union and get a union card at the earliest opportunity.

Why? You will soon discover that the wages you get are not sufficient to live on. You will want more, you will demand more. Now unions have been formed to aid the workers in pushing forward their demands for increased wages, or a shorter working day. If those demands are not granted by the employer, the result will probably be a strike. You will soon learn that if your wages are to increase—you have a better chance of getting that increase by the combined efforts of all the people who work side by side with you than by relying on yourself alone. So your first duty is to join the Union.


THE LONDON WORKERS' COMMITTEE,
7, Featherstone Buildings, Holborn, W.C.1.

**A CAPITALISTS' PEACE!**

**Have the WORKERS NO VOICE in the PEACE COUNCIL**

There have been three big meetings addressed by Trade Union officials, Members of Parliament and middle-class Labour Politicians, and we are no wiser as to what should be the IMMEDIATE POLICY OF THE WORKERS regarding—
1—D.O.R.A. 2—CONSCRIPTION. 3—RUSSIA.
4—THE WAGES QUESTION. 5—THE HOURS QUESTION.
and all other questions vitally affecting the workers.

THE LONDON WORKERS' COMMITTEE invite you to attend in your thousands

**A Mass Meeting of Workers**

To be addressed by WORKERS at the
**Holborn Empire, Holborn, W.C., Sunday, Dec. 1st, 1918.**
Doors open at 6 p.m. Chair taken at 7 p.m. by
S. C. BRADLEY (District Sec. A.S.E.)

Speakers—PERCY W. DAVIES, N.U.R. MATT HORSBURGH, Arsenal Shop Stewards. J. E. MILLS, Sec. Arsenal Shop Stewards. HARRY POLLITT, Ship Repairers Workers' Committee. MIRIAM PRICE, L.W.C. DAVID RAMSEY, Dartford Shop Stewards. W. F. WATSON, London Workers' Committee.
A Workers' Band will render Music between 6 and 7 p.m.
All Seats Free.


JOHN MACLEAN.

We now learn on good authority that since last July John Maclean has been on hunger strike and undergoing forcible feeding. Is this country to be the last in granting reprieves. Germany has shown the way by freeing Karl Liebknecht, whose popularity has been increased enormously by the unjust treatment meted out to him.

LEANEY'S LTD., WHOLESALE NEWSAGENTS, City Agent for the Workers' Dreadnought

### SOCIALISM OUR GOAL
(continued from page 1136).

of any authority"; that "not a single Allied soldier has been sent to help the Czechs, and that "there are tens of thousands of Russian officers in Siberia, mostly engaged in seeking staff jobs, whilst the regiments at the front are largely officered by non-commissioned officers."

This is the old story in Russia, as a host of witnesses have testified, and as John Reed, in his account of the Soldiers' Committees at the front (a part of which we reproduced in THE DREADNOUGHT), so graphically showed. It is important to note that the Siberian Government, which *The Times* calls "defunct," is the Government in the interests of which Kerensky asked for Allied support to overthrow the Bolsheviki, and on behalf of which a fortnightly magazine called *The Russian Commonwealth* is carrying on a similar propaganda in this country. The magazine is being sent out to British Trades Councils, Trades Union and Socialist organisations, and to persons known to be interested in Russia. This propaganda, carried on in the name of the "Provisional All-Russian Government" at Omsk, Siberia, which *The Times* now reports as defunct, is supposed to speak not only in the name of Russian capitalists but also in that of the Non-Bolshevik Socialist Party, the Menshevik (or Minority) Social Democrats. The Mensheviki, as reported in a recent issue of THE DREADNOUGHT, have, however, now joined the Bolsheviki. Therefore it is clear that though the name of the Moderate Socialists of Russia is used in connection with this propaganda, they have no connection with it now, whatever may have been the case in the past. The magazine further reveals the fact that the Union of the Russian Commonwealth, which publishes this magazine, is working in conjunction with the Central Russian Committee in London, of which the Chairman is :—

### SIR GEORGE BUCHANAN!

Sir George Buchanan was British Ambassador in Petrograd when the Czar was deposed. The Bolsheviki accused him of intriguing to re-establish the Czardom, but Sir George's Committee is evidently more anxious about capitalism than about the Czar. On October 8th it adopted a resolution suggesting that :—

"His Majesty's Government should recognise at the earliest possible moment, *any* Russian Government that may show promise of exerting real authority, and organising the country on a basis of true national discipline, *and recognise the right of property and Russia's obligation to the Allies.*"

Shall we plainly say, Russia's obligation to Allied capital?

Let there be no doubt about the fact that a government which can only be maintained by the might of foreign armies, is a government which is not acceptable to the mass of its own people. We who object to being made to join in oppressing another people and in crushing out a Socialist Government in favour of one which shall "*recognise the right of property,*" must strive to dismiss the British Government.

Having reported that the Siberian Government is defunct, *The Times'* correspondent refers to a newly-formed Directorate, which, according to his account of it, possesses but shadowy authority and needs the Allied help with which, he says, the late Government was not fully supplied. Like Kerensky, *The Times'* correspondent insinuates that the sympathies of the Allies in Russia are with the Czarist reaction, rather than with the Liberal "Business Ministry," of the Siberian Government. But whilst believers in capitalism may interest themselves in such minor differences, we realise that it matters very little to the workers whether they are oppressed and fleeced by a Government of Tory landlords or of Liberal Imperialist manufacturers.

### BRITISH PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

Anger against the Germans is still being fomented by stories of their alleged cruelty to British prisoners. We refer to this because it seems to us that the object in some quarters is to retain an atmosphere which will make the renewal of hostilities not impossible.

In a Durham mining village we overheard the following statement by a simple countryman :—

"——'s son has come home from Germany after two years out there. He speaks well of them; he's as fat as a bull; as fat as a bull, he is!"

*The Times'* correspondent in Paris, who had interviewed the British prisoners just returned from Germany, appears in the following sentence to sum up the position very fairly :—

"For the last two years such food as the prisoners received was identical with that eaten by the Germans themselves, showing the state of starvation in the country."

Exactly! Where the people were short of food, as a result of the War and the Allied blockade, the prisoners also went short. What else could be expected? But, by the way, is the food eaten by persons interned and imprisoned in this country identical with that eaten by the average Britisher? In any case, whatever may have been the treatment of prisoners of war under the Kaiser, we know that the German Socialists will show them every possible consideration. Complaints are made that prisoners in an enfeebled state are left to tramp as best they may to the frontiers. But, again, a *Times'* correspondent, in this case writing from Rotterdam, supplies the answer to the charge, in recording what he calls "a typical story," told him by "a jolly Scotsman" :—

"We were put on fatigue duty dragging German wagons back towards Germany....a rumour reached us that the war was over....the prisoners had increased in numbers, but one by one they deserted....the Germans only laughed when they saw that some more had got away....Obviously there was no more holding the prisoners. ....The Germans did not care any more; indeed, their whole attitude became one of indifference as soon as they heard that the Kaiser had abdicated. We saw them reading this news in the German papers and laughing as they showed it to each other....we were....told that we could go where we liked. They gave us a small quantity of biscuits, but as it was quite insufficient we raided the ration wagon and made off with our booty, which was not very large."

It is a graphic picture. The revolution comes, the prisoners are eager to be gone; there is "no holding them." Their guards agree to their wish to go, even give them food for the journey. They set off; some, as the Scotsman tells, to meet the advancing British armies; others to walk to the Dutch frontier, which is reached after a two days' tramp. We have no doubt that the German cottagers, in their enthusiasm for the Revolution, gladly gave food and shelter to many of the British and French who asked them for a night's lodging on their way to Holland. And if some individuals suffered hardship, in the excitement and confusion of these disbanding armies and prisoners breaking loose at the close of a great war and at the beginning of a revolution, must we be surprised? A Reuter message from Brussels, published in *The Daily Telegraph*, gives an inspiring account of how the German soldiers there received the news of the Kaiser's abdication, which reached them on November 10th :—

"Near the station in the centre of the town, starting from the Gare du Nord, a procession of soldiers, nearly all unarmed, was formed, and moved, with the red flag at its head, towards the great boulevards, singing revolutionary songs, and raising cheers for Belgium and France, and announcing their determination to fight no more. Very soon there were also several thousands of German motor-cars mounted by sailors and flying the red flag, while the cars were covered with the Belgian colours. They told several establishments to hoist the national colours....as if by magic, the flags appeared everywhere. An immense throng, delirious with joy....paraded the streets....The German soldiers decided to proclaim their adhesion to the German Republic. They resolved to get rid of their officers, and one saw them approach the latter and disarm them, and remove the insignia of their rank without the officers, as a rule, offering much resistance.... Towards the end of the afternoon the soldiers constituted a Soldiers' Council, seized the Kommandantur, secured the Governor-General and his staff, and made themselves masters of the situation."

### COWARDLY ATTACKS ON BOLSHEVISM.

But *The Daily Telegraph* explains that the joyous fraternisation was not universal. Some of the Germans still believed in war and capitalism—just as some British do! On Monday conflicts arose between the rival parties :—

"German soldiers ordered the removal of the flags, which had been too hastily hoisted, and regular scenes of Bolshevism occurred among the German soldiers. Pillaging, robbery under arms, and acts of brigandage and savagery were committed."

It is a cowardly lie to describe these latter scenes as Bolshevism. The first demonstration of International Solidarity was in the Bolshevik spirit; it was thus that the Bolshevik Revolution in Petrograd—a revolution of smiles as it has been called—was consummated last November.

We weary of the hypocricies of those who now that the Bolsheviki, because they are establishing Socialism, are assailed and villified by all who wish to maintain the old régime, draw timidly aside from them and say, by way of excuse: "We do not believe in violence." When the first Russian Revolution took place in the spring of 1917, those who to-day revile or deprecate the Bolsheviki, joined in applauding it. Members of the Cabinet congratulated it. Mayors spoke at Town Hall meetings to welcome it. *Actually an Albert Hall meeting hailed it!* But that first Revolution was, in the manner of its material happening, precisely the same as the second, the Bolshevik, Revolution, except that the first Revolution was, if anything, a trifle less peaceable. In the *coup d'etat* of the first revolution it is said that 300 people lost their lives; in the second only 6. In both cases the workers and soldiers simply marched in and took the seats of Government, little force being required, since the vast mass of the people were of one mind.

### THE ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND THE ALBERT HALL.

We congratulate the Electrical Trade Union in having shown at last that Labour does not only threaten and talk big, but that it can act. Many Labour and Socialist meetings have been cancelled, in flagrant breach of contract, during the War; and the workers, having no adequate halls of their own, and, until now, not having realised their power of direct action, have been left powerless, and without redress. Now, by cutting off the electric current from the Hall and threatening to withdraw their labour from the Kensington power station, they have demonstrated that Labour united is invincible.

We believe that the Albert Hall incident is destined to prove the first step in a new and wonderful development to be used for more important things than mere meetings. Spirit of Petrograd, you have indeed flown far!

Our only regret is that some of the promoters of *The Herald* Meeting protested that the "movement was in no sense Bolshevist" for *they* are pacifists—as though to be a Bolshevik were to be a bloodthirsty lover of war. Such insinuations are most churlish, especially when our splendid Russian Socialist comrades are facing such tremendous odds, and yet, in spite of them, have achieved a constructive pioneering work that deserves, and will some day gain, the admiration of the world. It ill becomes the promoters of the British Workers' and Soldiers' Councils that died so faint-heartedly to cast even an apparent slur upon the originators of the idea.

### THE GENERAL ELECTION.

The parties in the General Election may be summed up briefly as follows :—

1. THE COALITION.—*It has been captured by the Tory Party, Mr. Lloyd George having accepted the Tory programme, including :—*

(*a*) Tariff Reform (for all practical purposes).
(*b*) Carson's position in Ireland (for the present at least, and to-morrow never comes).



# FRITZ ADLER. By W. Runan.

[W]hilst thrones are smashed and princely [acc]outrements thrown on the pavement, whilst [mili]tarism proves itself a failure, the sword is [brok]en in twain, and Army staffs and green table [offic]ials are replaced by Workers and Soldiers' [Cou]ncils; one thought comes to me, Is Fritz [Adl]er free? (Yes; the Revolution set him [free]. ED.)

[C]apitalism is the enemy: to crush Capitalism [mus]t be our end and aim. Capitalism, seeing [itse]lf in danger, thought it best to come to terms [wit]h its enemies. It made one capital concession, [igno]ring the fact that it was dealing with the [peo]ple of the twentieth century whose maxim is: [Eve]rything or Nothing. It set Liebknecht free [an]d almost at once Germany took fire. The [atm]osphere, impregnated with some sort of [incen]diary gas, exploded when those in command [of] the wonderful and out-of-date Prussian [mac]hinery, began to tremble upon their swords [an]d on their money-bags.

[W]e deplored the assassination of Jaurès, but [as] often occurs in history, another pistol shot [coun]ter-balanced his death, and became the [sign]al of the fall of Capitalism, when, on Oct. 21st, [191]6, Fritz Adler felled Count Stürgkh in a [Vie]nna restaurant. Stürgkh was more than a [com]mon Cabinet Minister of a tumbling Monarchy; [he] was the personification of Capitalism, *i.e.*, [Mili]tarism, Despotism, Finance and Profit-making. [Adl]er's pistol shot, when he slew Stürgkh in 1916, [was] the first signal of the overthrow of the Capi[tali]st regime.

[I] saw Fritz Adler once, some years ago. I [rem]ember his face: a sweet, austere, meditative [hea]d, crowned by thick hair, beneath which were [the] eyes of a wise adolescent, with a mystical far[-aw]ay look.

[A]dler killed Stürgkh three months after Lieb[kne]cht's condemnation to a fortress, and six months before the fall of the vile Tzarist regime. These three events mark, in the world-war, both the awakening of Class-consciousness and revolutionary Idealism. Together with the refusal of war credits by the Socialist Serbs, the systematic resistance of the Italian Socialists, with Zimmerwald and Kienthal, this act has, for four years paved the way, by a painful and glorious road, for the International.

Fritz Adler was arrested at once and, on May 18, 1917, sentenced, by a specially chosen tribunal, to be hanged. He explained his action in a long defence, in which he broke away from his friends and lawyers who pleaded mental derangement. The Emperor Charles desiring to temporize with the people, commuted his sentence to penal servitude. But is he not the man who, to-morrow, will make the true Socialist Revolution in Austria, establish a strong Bolshevik Internationale and doom for ever, with Lenin, Trotsky and Liebknecht, the outworn Capitalist system of Europe!

Why did Adler slay Stürgkh? The Socialist Party was everything to him; in its work was his life. He studied and taught science and at the same time preached Socialism. When war broke out, in Austria as well as everywhere else, the Socialist movement disappeared; or at least the so-called Socialists disappeared from it. Socialist thought declined, and the ideals of the Internationalism faded, but Fritz Adler alone listened to his conscience, though he found himself deserted. The Austrian Government established an inhuman censorship, suppressed trial by jury, and Parliamentary control, and declared the nation in a state of siege. A man at the head of that Government personified this state of affairs: Count Stürgkh.

Fritz Adler resolved to slay the system in the person of Stürgkh. Hating the propaganda of the pistol and the sword, he yet thought that in the extraordinary circumstances to which humanity was subjected it was necessary to commit an act of violence which would awaken in the masses the spirit of revolt and of sacrifice. As our French Comrade Amédée Dunois wrote recently, "he slew what was dead in Austria and gave life to what was fully alive." The Capitalists dared not hang him: oppressed nationalities were agitating, the working classes desired peace and bread; in Socialist circles Republicanism (Sovietism, I should say) was working its way.

There is no longer an Austrian Empire, no more a German Empire, and some thirty crowns have been smashed up. But, comrades, do not cry: "Victory" yet, for nothing will have been done until we have abolished Capitalism, which was hiding cowardly behind crowns and swords, and which is clothing itself now in Socialist *mannequins*, through President Wilson, Gompers, Kerensky, Scheidemann and the British Clynes and Barnes.

Wise are those who laugh at wisdom and who, in the most despairing hours in history, have faith in revolution. Trotsky, Lenin, Liebknecht, Adler and John Maclean; to such as these *the International is the supreme law* and *war a crime.*

Fritz Adler was a hard worker, a man of speculative action. Professor of Science, Editor of *Der Kampf*, organiser of the Socialist Party and teacher in Socialist schools, he worked eagerly and without remuneration. Adler killed Stürgkh because he thought that was necessary to the Cause of the People and to the International.

Amédée Dunois, writing on the subject, says: "It has been said that Logic and Action are in duel since the beginning of history. We admire in Fritz Adler the logician who knew when to act well."

[We print this as a record of what occurred, and why, in the writer's opinion, it occurred—not as an incitement to violence, which we deprecate.—J. Edward Francis.]

### SOCIALISM OUR GOAL
(continued from page 1138).

[(c)] A bargain with the Welsh Church. (Oh! [poor] Wales!)
[(d)] House of Lords Reform (which, no doubt, [will] increase the power of that old institution).

[Th]e name of Mr. George Barnes is not attached [to th]e Coalition manifesto. He has been quietly [drop]ped because he could not keep the Labour [Par]ty in the Coalition.

[2.] THE LIBERAL PARTY.—*It has no programme [and] no principles, the proof being its com[plai]nt that but few of its candidates have been [accep]ted as part of the Coalition, which has [adop]ted a Tory programme. (Mr. Bonar Law [has,] no doubt, had a controlling voice in the [Coali]tion, and is seeing to it that the programme [wi]ll not be, like most Liberal promises, a question [of mer]e window dressing.*

[3.] THE LABOUR PARTY.—*Having crawled at [the he]els of the capitalist Government throughout [the] War, it has most reluctantly assumed a more [or] less (probably less than more) independent [atti]tude, at the bidding of the rank and file. [Clyn]es, having done his best to keep Labour in the [Coali]tion, now jumps out of it after the Labour cat. [He re]alises that he would be but a dead-head if [he a]llowed the Government to drop him as it has [drop]ped Barnes.*

[4.] THE SOCIALIST CANDIDATES.—*There are [to]o of them that even if they were all returned [they] would be able to do nothing.*

### [4]0 D AND VOTES FOR WOMEN.

[In] view of the coming election it is announced [that] the D.O.R.A. Regulation 40 D is to be [with]drawn almost immediately. This, and the [fact] that women may sit in Parliament, appear [to be] the two things that the women's vote has [achie]ved so far—a poor harvest, truly, for so [man]y years of strenuous effort!

### [PAR]LIAMENT IN ITS DEATH THROES.

[Bu]t, after all, that is not surprising, for the [syst]em of Parliamentary Government is in [it]s throes. The British Government has [beco]me an autocracy: it flouts Parliament with [an i]mpunity seldom enjoyed by autocratic [mona]rchs. Parliament has never yet been told [whet]her and why we are at war with Russia, [or w]hy we invade her. The armistice terms were framed and imposed without reference to Parliament. The peace terms are now being arranged without Parliament being consulted. Parliament is not even told who are to be the British delegates at the Peace Conference, and when Members ask for information on these matters, they are told: "That question must be left to the Government which represents the nation." The poor excuse that the enemy might get to know what was said disappeared on the day when the first Secret Session was held.

The fact is that neither Parliament nor the Government represents the nation. The nation cannot be really represented by a body it has no power to instruct, and there is at present no constitutional means of forcing the Government or Parliament to receive instructions.

But Parliaments are passing things; they will presently be replaced all over the world by the Soviets—the most democratic form of government yet evolved.

When the Election has passed, and the workers have settled down again to industrial organisation and active propaganda for the Soviets, we shall heave a sigh of relief. And some of the would-be members of Parliament, who to-day are a little impatient with us revolutionaries, will no doubt come round to our way of thinking after they have endured that "glorious" but not altogether happy hour of moral victory which is called defeat.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

### "PRUSSIANISM" STILL FLOURISHING.

In *The Star* of November 16th, appears the story of how about thirty or forty soldiers captured a Red Flag from a man at Golder's Green. A correspondent tells us that it was a woman not a man, and that she was just recovering from influenza. The officer in command of the raiding party told the woman that because she put the Red Flag out of her window she "ought to be placed against the wall and shot." If it had not been for the soldiers he would have struck her!

* * *

### IMPORTANT.

Sylvia Pankhurst desires to make it plain that she is not standing for Parliament.

### POVERTY, LICE AND DISEASE

A. W. Bacot, the Entomologist to the Lister Institute, issues a warning against body and head lice, which convey typhus, relapsing and trench fever. He says: "bundles of khaki in some cases swarming with living lice have to be treated at London cleansing stations." This throws a light on one aspect of the hideous degradation of war; but surely there is mismanagement in bringing verminous uniforms from over seas to be treated in the most crowded centre of population.

A. W. Bacot continues: "That there is any serious increase in grossly verminous cases is improbable, owing to the standard of life of our working population....I was asked recently by a gentleman how he could definitely assure himself of freedom from either insect parasites or the diseases they convey, and was obliged to own that I knew of no certain method, other than the raising of the general standard of life above the level of the incidence of insect vermin. Poverty, whether of mind, body, or estate, is the basic cause of the trouble. I would suggest that, as regards head lice, carefully tested remedies, together with clearly printed instructions, should be provided free to all parents whose children are infested; if these are not used with satisfactory results, then the public cleansing stations should be utilised. At present the cost and trouble of getting the remedy, as well as the time necessary for its application, fall upon the already overworked and poverty-stricken mother of the family."

Unemployment and low wages mean poverty; poverty means lice and disease.

### SPOILED AND PAMPERED WORKERS.

Sir Herbert Dixon, Chairman of the Cotton Control Board, has been telling his fellow employers that during the war the workers have been "spoiled and pampered." It is remarkable that even an employer in the cotton trade should say this seeing that the cotton operatives are really amongst the workers who have suffered very grievous economic hardships as a result of the war. He graciously said he was willing that the workers should have an eight hour day when that became universal, otherwise it would mean "death and destruction to the textile industry!" And they say that the workers are not capable of running the industries! Some employers do not seem to be! It appears that the workers must work cheap to capture many markets, and then must work long hours at high pressure in order to supply them. Ah well! Capitalism is in its final stages.

said that if the Pensions Ministry ... use of the machinery already ... here might be reason in the Bill, ... the meantime out le right it had to claim more ... sition the Bill was read a ... nnexations. ... ndemnities. ... right of the peoples ... us that Mr. Bonar ... national Federation of "Never Endians"—

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# WORKERS' SOCIALIST FEDERATION.

## LONDON MEETINGS.

OUT DOOR.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29th.
Hague Street, Bethnal Green.—11.45 A.M., Miss Price.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30th.
Great Push for Socialism, Votes for All, and a People's Peace in Leytonstone.—Meet at Harrow Green, Leytonstone, at 3 P.M. sharp. Urgent appeal to local as well as other speakers and literature sellers and distributors to back up the Socialist Labour candidate, W. Carter (N.U.R.) Speakers: Mrs. Cole, Miss Price, Mrs. Walker, Mr. W. Carter, and others.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1st.
Osborn Street, Whitechapel.—11.45 A.M, Miss Price.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd.
Rathbone Street, Canning Town.—11.45 A.M., Miss Price.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th.
Great Push in Waterloo Road, near "Old Vic."—11.45 A.M., Miss Price, Mrs. Walker, and others.

INDOOR.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2nd.
44, Malden Road.—2.30 P.M., Business meeting.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5th.
Holborn Town Hall.—3-10 P.M., Cockney Fair.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6th.
Holborn Town Hall.—2.30-10 P.M., Cockney Fair.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th.
Holborn Town Hall.—2.30-10 P.M., Cockney Fair.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd.
William Morris Hall.—Walthamstow League of Rights.—2.30 P.M., Mrs. Walker.


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From 6.30 to 10.30 p.m. Admission One Shilling.

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RELEASE JOHN MACLEAN.

The John Maclean demonstration in Finsbury Park on Sunday, November 24th, was enthusiastic and instinct with serious purpose. The resolution demanding the immediate release of John Maclean and all political prisoners was carried unanimously at all platforms. The London Socialist Movement is growing in courage and vigour.

* * * *

£6, subscribed by the foremen of the London Small Arms in memory of an old colleague deceased, J Day, tool room foreman, given to the Mothers' Arms.


MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

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**Opener - Mrs. CEDAR PAUL.**
Chair - Mrs. DRAKE.
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Children's Dances. Pierrots.

**Friday, December 6th, 2.30 to 10 p.m.**
**Opener - W. F. WATSON.**
Chair - Miss PRICE.
Concert in aid of the Mothers' Arms Day Nursery. Children's Dances.

**Saturday, December 7th, 2.30 to 10 p.m.**
**Opener - GEORGE LANSBURY.**
Chair - Mrs. WALKER.
Concert—Madame Levinskaja, Miss Lena Kontorovitch & other Artistes. Pierrots.

**STALLS:**

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Vegetables and Fruit - Mrs. PASCOE.
Flowers - Miss CASEY. Remnants - Mrs. THRING.
Books, Literature, etc. - Miss HENRIETTA LESLIE.
Children's Garments - Miss BURGIS.
Garments & Christmas Tree - WALTHAMSTOW LEAGUE OF RIGHTS.
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Apply early for Tickets to Miss BUSH, 400 Old Ford Road, E.3.

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