

The Communist

Official Paper of the Communist Party of America

Vol. 1, No. 7

CHICAGO, ILL., SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1919.

Five Cents

Forward to Mexico!

"An evident principle runs through the whole program I have outlined. It is the principle of justice to all peoples and nationalities, and their right to live on equal terms of liberty and safety with one another, whether they be weak or strong. Unless this principle be made its foundation, no part of the structure of international justice can stand. The people of the United States could act upon no other principle; and to the vindication of this principle they are willing to devote their lives, their honor, and everything they possess."—From Woodrow Wilson's fourteen points.

"We shall fight for the privilege of men everywhere to choose their own method of life and obedience."—Wilson's war message.

"Self-determination is not a mere phrase. It is an imperative principle of action, which statesmen will henceforth ignore at their peril."—Woodrow Wilson, Feb. 18, 1918.

"The settlement of every question, whether of territory, or sovereignty, of economic arrangement, or of political relationship, upon the basis of free acceptance of that settlement by the people immediately concerned, and not upon the basis of the material interest or advantage of any other nation or people which may desire a different settlement for the sake of its own exterior influence or mastery."—Woodrow Wilson, July 14, 1918.

A visitor from Mars who could read the ideological and high sounding phrases of the spokesmen of the United States government would conclude that the one reason for the existence of this government is to establish self-determination of all peoples of the earth. Should the visitor then pick up a capitalist paper and peruse its headlines he would be startled by frenzied shrieking for invasion of Mexico, obviously against the will of the Mexican people and their government. Meanwhile Mr. Wilson, the spokesman for the government, says nothing and permits his cabinet members to do his talking for him.

For several years war clouds have been lowering along the Mexican border. The financial interests of the country, centered at Wall Street, have had designs upon Mexico because of the marvelous supply of minerals and oil within the confines of that country. The intrigues indulged in by American imperialists went to the extent of deliberately hiring Pancho Villa and his gang of cutthroats to make raids across the American border in order to provoke a declaration of war against Mexico. Everything was being carefully prepared in the spring of 1916 for annexation of Mexico, when the larger interests of international capitalism detracted the attention of the government to the European situation. In order to conceal the sordid motives of American imperialism which plunged the country into the European whirlpool, it was necessary for Professor Wilson, the expert phrase-monger, to furnish the idealistic cloak of words. This he did to

perfection. His talk about freedom, democracy, self-determination, liberty and justice was used to browbeat the manhood of America into the ranks of a conscript army, without ever asking their consent. It was also used by ignorant and vicious federal prosecuting attorneys to inflame the minds of juries and secure convictions, carrying with them long terms in American federal prisons, the vilest on earth, for mildly criticizing the war policy of American imperialism. After depriving the people who live in this country of all the so-called "inalienable rights" such as "free speech, free press and free assemblage," while the European war was on, the same ruling clique desires to perpetuate its censorship, because it has other imperialistic conquests in store.

No sooner had the armistice been signed with Germany than the propaganda for intervention and control of Mexico was renewed. The renewal of the propaganda was accompanied by an immediate rise of Mexican securities on the New York stock exchange. The large financiers invested millions of dollars in order to take advantage of the Mexican "opportunities." The capitalistic press of the entire nation, artificially stimulated by the Wall Street plunderbund, is demanding that the government pacify Mexico and protect the lives of American citizens within the borders of that nation. These citizens who have fallen victims in the Mexican disorders were fully aware of the danger involved while attempting to live in a country kept in the throes of civil war by the capitalists of the United States. They were not there representing the United States government, but their own interests; most of them were land owners and there for the purpose of exploiting the Mexican peons. After treating these miserable, half-starved slaves with the utmost brutality, one of them would attack and kill an American owner, then the reptile Morganized press would again deliriously howl for an invasion of Mexico.

The last move on the part of the American imperialists for conquest of Mexico was the case of the two aviators who are alleged to have been captured by Mexican bandits and held for ransom. After a few days a sum of money was paid to someone and the aviators released unharmed. The incident should have closed, and would have closed, had it not been for the financial interests at stake in Mexico.

The Mexican situation has also assumed complications with the British imperialists, who hold billions of dollars worth of Mexican property rich in oils and minerals, if we are to believe the capitalist press. The truth of the matter

is that the British holdings are no more in danger than they ever were before, but the British imperialists realize the fact that American soldiers are to be sent to Mexico in the interest of Wall Street and so they want to have a hand in the annexation of Mexico in order to prevent the United States capitalists encroaching upon their possessions.

The American press has been complaining that America "gets nothing" out of the European peace settlement. While as yet, America has only succeeded in protecting the loans of American capitalists to the Allies in Europe, we seem to be about to grab Mexico as the American share of the world plunder.

No intelligent person can doubt for a moment but that Mexico is doomed to fall under the sceptre of Wall Street and that the lives of the young men of the country will be sacrificed to achieve that end.

We wonder what phrases Mr. Wilson will coin in order to cloak this act of international brigandage. Perhaps he will tell us that the invasion of Mexico is really a move to liberate the people of Mexico, who "subconsciously desire" to be under the domination of the capitalist class of this country and that it is the duty of this nation to arouse that desire to full consciousness. Perhaps that is the method of reasoning he uses toward Porto Ricans, Philipinos, Santo Domingans, Nicaraguans, Virgin Islanders and Haiteins.

Sentimentalists and petty bourgeois will protest against the annexation of Mexico as an international crime, but the revolutionist must keep in mind the fact that history has decreed the doom of small nations under capitalist imperialism, because imperialism must constantly extend, constantly encroach upon new and undeveloped territory. Since 1898, the date of the entrance of this government into the war with Spain, the foreign and domestic policy of the American government has been imperialistic. Every year saw the constant extension of this imperialism, until today it is one of the foremost imperialistic nations of the earth.

American soldiers are now in Mexico without a declaration of war for the purpose of provoking retaliation on the part of the Mexican people as an excuse to completely subdue that nation to Wall Street and London capitalists. The only people in this country who will profit by a war against Mexico will be the ruling class. But those who do the fighting will be the working class. When the reports of the casualties arrive from Mexico we will never read of the delicate carcass of John D. Rockefeller Jr., dangling upon a barb wire entanglement be-

(Continued on Page 8)

The Conquest of Power

By Alexander Stokditsky

The Communist Party of America comes into existence under entirely new conditions in this country; new conditions produced by the tightening of class lines and the intensification of the class struggle, with the ruling class taking ever more drastic steps in the suppression of class movements opposed to its regime. The time has forever passed for the revolutionary movement to be able to continue its quiet, uninterrupted organization and educational propaganda. The conquest of markets and the enormous extension of the American imperialists' sphere of influence has resulted in an enormous accumulation of capital in the hands of the capitalists of this country and in order to protect this treasure they will resort to any means for the purpose of crushing opposition. The imperialistic hydra of this nation, clothed in military paraphernalia from head to foot is ready to crush every semblance of opposition to its brutal dictatorship, in order to carry on unhampered its murderous annexation policies.

The Communist Party of America comes into existence at a period of crisis brought about by the imperialistic war; a crisis which produces an ever increasing unrest in the ranks of the workers. Hand in hand with the crisis in the American Socialist movement, just as the same conditions in Europe brought to a crisis, resulting in new tactics and policies, the socialist movements of Europe. We are today entering a period of tremendous social upheaval in this country. Strike waves convulse the country from coast to coast. The slogan of "general strike" becomes the slogan of the masses of organized workers. It is only a step from the slogan of an industrial general strike, to that of a general political strike; the activity of the state in suppression irresistibly forces an understanding of the historical necessity of the political strike; against capitalism, against war and against imperialism. This heralds the climax of the class struggle in this country. The imperialists and their henchmen are using the old tried methods to crush this movement; prisons become the homes of thousands upon thousands of political offenders; papers are suppressed, others held for months in the mails before delivery; people active in the movement who happen to have been born in other countries are deported; even race hatred is brought to the fore by the ruling class; every method of publicity is used to inflame the workers against the revolutionary movement. Spies and provocateurs in the employ of imperialism everywhere permeate and endeavor to vitiate the workers movement.

Even these drastic measures cannot prevent the workers fulfilling the mission to which history has called them. The ruling class in Europe is failing to stem the rising tide and they will fail to stem it here. But the fact that history is working for the freedom of the workers does not justify the Communists minimizing the necessity for revolutionary action. The enemy is strong and pitiless. The broad masses of the proletariat are unconscious and poorly organized for the purpose of coping with the highly efficient capitalist machine of suppression.

This period of darkest reaction cannot

and must not hinder the work of the Communist Party. The immediate problem of the party is to overcome all the barriers of repression and carry our message to the masses of the working class. We must get our message before them in order to convince them of the correctness of our principles and tactics. This is a very responsible duty imposed upon us; a duty we must not shirk at any hazard. Those who feel themselves weak or lacking in courage are not wanted for this tremendous task. "Only a class that marches along its road without hesitation, that does not become dejected and does not despair on the most difficult and dangerous crossings, can lead the toiling and exploited masses. We do not need hysterical outbursts. We need the regular march of the iron battalions of the proletariat." (Lenin, Soviets at Work.) Every revolutionist who has at heart the best interests of the movement will admit the necessity for courageous action. It is the Communist Party of America that must marshal the forces in this country into that "regular march of the iron battalions of the proletariat." We must rid ourselves of all petit bourgeois elements and hesitating slaves with bourgeois psychologies. We must eliminate those who worship the fetish of pseudo-democracy and organize the workers for the conquest of power.

Our Communist Party must have a responsible head that is able to call the masses of the proletariat into action. That head must be the Central Executive Committee; not a committee composed of well advertised names, but of men and women who have studied the problems of the workers and who have sufficient historical foresight to enable them to recognize a revolutionary crisis; in addition they must have sufficient courage to act honestly in such a crisis. To select this committee we should not resort to the pseudo-democracy of a party referendum. This form of "democracy" sounds very well when mouthed by politicians, but as a matter of fact is only a cumbersome machine where names and not ability is selected. Under the old system many comrades have voted for people with whom they have never come in contact, persons who are known only by name and who may have none of the qualifications necessary to lead a revolutionary movement. The old national executive committee of the socialist party is a horrible example of this sort of "democracy." Our central committees should be elected at party conventions and only there. Every delegate elected to the convention is there because the group which elects him has confidence in his ability to intelligently select the most efficient material for the central executive. The same system must be applied to state and district or federation central committees. These committees must be empowered to at all times keep in touch with all the problems of propaganda and organization, in addition to carefully gauging the strength of the enemy. The old form of the central committees functioning merely as executives has become obsolete and incapable of responding to the changes that are taking place in the world of

labor and of capitalism.

Within the organization the widest possible range of criticism must be admitted. No official must ever be considered immune from criticism and discipline, but when we are outside the meetings and facing the enemy every person must be controlled in his actions by a strict discipline. No matter what the personal opinions of an individual may be or how persistently he may express his opinions regarding principles or tactics he must submit to the will of the Communist membership when facing the enemy in the struggle, or he must quit the organization.

We are aware that many of the "old guard" of the movement, who are temperamentally individualistic, will hurl the charge of fanaticism against us. But was the discipline in the ranks of the Bolsheviks on the question of Brest-Litovsk fanaticism? In the delegate caucus meeting where the problems arising out of the conflict with Germany were being discussed by delegates of the Bolshevik party, preliminary to placing it before the Soviet convention the vote stood eight hundred for the treaty to about three hundred against, but when the Bolshevik party went into the convention of Soviets they voted a solid eleven hundred for the treaty. If this condition had arisen in the old socialist party the vote in the convention would have been divided, because Menshevik organizations do not have party discipline. As stated in the opening paragraph of this article we must adopt new tactics to new conditions. The tactics of the Communists in America must be built on the same principles of democratic centralization and party discipline as in Europe.

There is no use shedding tears over the broken idol of bourgeois democracy. It is a delusion in the ranks of the proletariat equally as much as it is in the hands of a ruling class.

Rally to the call of the Third Internationale and do your duty as revolutionists!

Putting aside for the moment all this extravagant language about revolution, the aims of the communists may be reduced to this elemental proposition:

That each member of society shall take part in the general necessary labor and in return shall receive the full reward of his effort, having an equal voice in the management of the community of which he forms a part.

It seems strange indeed that this should not find favor with intelligent men. Obviously, there is an abundance of worldly goods; there is plenty for all—and nature's vast resources have as yet only been tapped.

Yet men cannot see it. The law of the jungle still prevails and men tear and claw for that which they might have peacefully.

Revolution—counter-revolution—strife—struggle—the clash of arms—the screams and groans of the wounded—and for what? Only that the race may share fully in the fruits of the earth.

The "Labor Party" is Born

The agitation that has been carried on in a number of states by certain officials of the American Federation of Labor culminated on Aug. 18th in a conference of executive committeemen representing the nine states now having organized Labor Parties, held in the city of Chicago. At this meeting the committee decided to hold the first convention in Chicago sometime in November, for the purpose of determining the policy of the party.

The leaders of the party in Illinois are men who were formerly affiliated with the old reformist socialist party. No doubt some members of the so-called socialist organization will accuse them of "betraying the party," but a perusal of the statements issued by prominent laborites convinces us that they stand just where they did while in the socialist party, as it never was anything but a laborite and petty reform organization. Now that such men as Duncan McDonald and John H. Walker, both prominent in the United Mine Workers of America and co-workers with Adolph Germer, present secretary of the socialist party, have thrown their support to the labor party they will undoubtedly be able to line up all the former trade union fakirs who supported the old party. That will leave the socialist party nothing but its appeal to middle class elements, as the new labor party will be a much more efficient instrument for the purpose of deluding the workers into believing the road to emancipation is paved with "labor" laws. It is quite probable that the politicians now prominent in the defunct socialist party will also line up with the laborites.

The program of this aggregation does not as yet include participation in presidential elections, but rather to endeavor to secure the "balance of power" in the congress that will be chosen in 1920. To strive for the balance of power is quite in keeping with the petty bourgeois psychology of these fakirs. Briefly stated the balance of power means a sufficient number of "labor representatives" in the houses of congress to defeat legislation proposed by either of the two parties unless they accede to the demands of labor; then the party that agrees to support the demands of the Labor Party will receive the support of the Labor Party when it has some piece of legislation to put over. A sublime program and one that should appeal strongly to the slaves!

A noteworthy feature of the convention was the fraternal delegate from the "committee of forty-eight," which is a combination of sentimentalists and freaks who met two days before for the purpose of discussing the advisability of launching a new national party which would be opposed to both profiteers and bolshevists. Probably the forty-eighters will be able to reach an amicable understanding with the labor party, so their support can also be relied upon. With the labor skates affiliated with the numerous state federations of labor, the remnants of the old socialist party and the committee of forty-eight the support of the prohibitionists should also be secured and the contest for balance of power begun. After the election they could control the balance of power and if the Republican party wanted an appropriation of ten million dollars to build a dam over a

creek near Podunk, the representatives of the Labor Party could force them to support their bill to compel bakers to put smaller holes in the doughnuts. If the Democratic party wanted to send some hungry politician, who had failed of election, on a roving trip to Europe to study the decoration on public-buildings the Labor Party outfit could hold up the proposition until the democrats consented to support a bill prohibiting the "predatory rich" from purchasing diamond collars for their poodle dogs. Thus it can be readily seen that the policy of the balance of power would be a great victory for labor. The Labor candidates could then be re-elected upon their records and get some more balance of power.

While this would not in any way assist in securing the emancipation of the working class, at least it would be great for the labor-skates and relieve them of the necessity of exerting themselves except a few weeks before election.

We shall await their platform and constitution and then apply the searchlight of Communist criticism to their combined idiosyncrasies. No doubt the Labor Party

will be able to rally a large number of supporters to its standard, but no intelligent member of the working class will be deceived thereby. It may have an appeal to the middle class, but that class is incapable of independent political action, so the moment the criticism of the revolutionary workers alienates the support of the unconscious organized workers who have pledged their support to it, the Labor Party will cease to exist.

Meanwhile the Communist Party, the party of revolutionary socialism, the party of the Third Internationale, will relentlessly carry on its propaganda and organization against every other political party of capitalism, whether alleged labor or avowedly capitalist, and expose them alike as tools of reaction and servants of capitalism.

We welcome the fakirs of the Labor Party and will meet them in the fray. Although they may try to stem the tide of world revolt and perpetuate this system, the revolutionary workers of the world, over the dead body of all labor parties, will plant the flaming flag of the Communist Internationale upon the ramparts of capitalism.

ON WITH THE WAR!

In these days of trouble and strife in the labor movement, when controversy and counter-controversy fills the columns of the socialist papers and demands almost the entire time of our deliberative assemblies, let us not forget the duty we owe the unenlightened of our class.

Matters of policy and tactics must be and will be thrashed out, to the end that the "sheep may be divided from the goats"—and that labor's march to emancipation shall be impeded neither by false friends in the labor movement—nor by the failure to reckon and remove obstacles on the outside. And it is well that, in particular, American socialism should undergo a thorough housecleaning. The historic land of enterprise, initiative and mechanical cunning and ingenuity, it was to be expected that America's contribution to the family of socialist and labor movements should be both many in number and bizarre in character. And so the expedients with which the American worker would either palliate the evils of capitalism or overthrow it are known around the world.

It would be a waste of time at this late day to enlarge on the condition which gave birth to the "Greenback" movement, the "Populist" craze, or the Bryan frenzy of a generation ago, when they discovered that labor was being "Crucified upon a Cross of Gold!"

That imported monstrosity which thrived so well west of the Atlantic ocean—the American Federation of Labor—together with the Gompers' tradition which accompanies it needs only passing mention. The American Federation of Labor, with its allies in the now discredited Socialist Party of America—have faithfully done their share to confuse and betray the working class of America to their enemies.

But a new epoch greets us, a breaking up the old—and alignment of the new. And just before the new line up of

forces in America is brought into being—a line-up, let us hope, that will be fit and ready to assist the workers to accomplish their historic mission in society, let us sound an alarm lest amid the glamor of party and sectarian strife we forget some vital principles. The socialist owes a duty to the unenlightened member of the working class the fulfillment of which takes precedence over any other activity.

Let us preach the class war with increasing vigor!

Let us never forget that our message is—to the discontented proletarians of whatever color or language, creed or sex.

In case they should not be discontented (miracles in this day and age) it is our duty in our own interests and theirs to create a healthy discontent by the recital of the mere facts of these decadent days of capitalism.

Let us bend to the task of reaching an ever greater circle of workers with the revolutionary message.

From the soap-bax—in personal talks, and by the printed word let the work gain impetus.

To accomplish our ends the revolutionary party must have a greater grip on—and a greater support from the American working class than it ever has had in the past. So the party must be made worthy of the support of the workers, the misleaders must be discredited, the pitfalls of reform-mongering must be avoided, so that when the decisive hour strikes and the White Terror raises its hand in the land—the mass of the workers will see in the revolutionary battalions bone of its bone and flesh of its flesh, it will instinctively support and be guided by the new power which is even now forming, to the end that the American movement may measure itself up to the full standard of

(Continued on Page 7)

THE COMMUNIST

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA

DENNIS E. BATT..... Editor
M. M. WICKS..... Associate Editor

Organization Committee, Communist Party of America
JOHN KERACHER DENNIS E. BATT
S. KOPNAGEL D. ELBAUM
J. V. STILSON O. C. JOHNSON
ALEXANDER STOKLITSKY

DENNIS E. BATT, Secretary
ALEXANDER STOKLITSKY, Organizer
J. V. STILSON, Treasurer

SUBSCRIPTION:

\$2.00 per year Single Copies 5 cents
\$1.00 six months Bundle Rates on Application

Published Weekly By THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
1221 BLUE ISLAND AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILL.

MORE PLEDGES

We have had enough pledges in the past few years from statesmen to fill a good sized joke book. "Open covenants openly arrived at" and "self-determination" have taken their place in the joke column and now we have another candidate for entrance.

Japan pledges home rule in Corea. Although it may be taken seriously for a time by the innocent, eventually it will take its place in the limbo tragic of farces along with "making the world safe for democracy." Japan's idea of what constitutes a humane rule is not mentioned in the dispatches, but we may assume that it is the same as that which has prevailed in Corea up until now.

Girls will be stripped and flogged in the streets the same as ever in order that the exploitation of the Korean working class by the capitalist class of Japan may continue. Hundreds will be executed if they dare to raise their voices in protest at the exploitation. Maybe not quite so openly as has been the case in the past. Perhaps the Japanese capitalists will learn a lesson from their American brethren and cloak their deeds of violence behind a screen of democracy. But behind it all will be the ruthless exploitation of the workers.

We are informed by Premier Hara that "the government is now decided to carry out various reforms in Corea, and it is its fixed determination to forward the progress of the country in order that all differences between Corea and Japan proper in matters of education, industry and of the civil service may finally be altogether obliterated.

The government is, moreover, confidently looking forward to the eventual adoption in Corea of a system of provincial and municipal administration similar to that in operation in Japan proper, as far as circumstances will permit." There we have it. Everything is going to come out nicely in Corea now. The Japanese Empire will make Japs of the Coreans. Perfectly lovely--for the Japanese capitalist. They will continue to exploit the workers of Japan. The Japanese workers are so miserable that they are on the verge of a revolution now.

The Japanese government further pledges that its stay in Corea is only temporary. She will not stay there any longer than is absolutely necessary. Japan will, of course, determine how long is necessary. In 1882, England entered Egypt with the same promise. It is still necessary for her to remain there. So, too, will it be with Japan in Corea.

The Japanese government will hold the workers of Corea in subjection in the interest of Japanese capitalism until such time as she is thrown out. When the workers of Japan, Corea and the balance of the world realize that their interests are one, the power will then generate, not only to throw the capitalist out of Corea, but to dispossess them completely all over the world.

"WHY ARE OUR BOYS IN SIBERIA?"

The other day the downtown section of Chicago was suddenly started by the appearance of over five thousand fathers and mothers, sisters and wives of soldiers stationed in Siberia, carrying banners and fairly shrieking for the immediate withdrawal of troops from Russia. The occasion for the demonstration was the departure of a delegation for Washington to interview President Wilson to present demands that their relatives be ordered home.

Many banners bearing the query, "Why Are Our Boys in Siberia?" were scattered through the parade. We wonder if those who paraded really expect Professor Wilson to truthfully reply to that question. If they do they are doomed to

disappointment, for if Wilson even consents to see them he will have a specially prepared evasion exquisitely concealed behind his expert diction, so that at the time he speaks they will think he is saying something, but after they have been dismissed and carefully consider the words of the Princeton professor, they will find they know exactly as much about the question of intervention in Russia as they did when they paraded the streets of Chicago in the rain.

If they really want an answer to the question we can give it to them in two words: "CAPITALIST IMPERIALISM." The spokesmen of this imperialism consoled the relatives of these boys when they were sent to Siberia with the deliberate falsehood that Russian intervention was necessary in order to prevent material assistance to Germany. These simple people thought their "boys" were sent to Siberia in order to help establish "democracy" in the world. It has already been proved thousands of times that Allied intervention, which included the presence of American troops in Siberia, was not a move against Imperial Germany, but against Free Russia. That is why they are fighting: To throttle the workers' government in Russia. They are not there in order to free the world, but to assist in crushing the only people on earth who are really endeavoring to establish a government that represents the people. The success of the Russian revolution furnishes an example of liberty to the balance of the world that is exceedingly distasteful to the imperialists, so they are using American troops to fight their battles. American troops will remain in Siberia until they are driven out by the force of arms of the Russians, or until the workers of the world force the Allied governments to withdraw them.

American soldiers are fighting Soviet Russia, in the interest of the American and Allied imperialism without a declaration of war, because a declaration of war would lay bare their sinister motives against the workers of Russia and the rest of the world.

The ruling class of the entire world is convulsed with rage at the spectacle of the red flag of the proletarian revolution floating over the former palaces of the Czars, and they realize that unless they destroy the revolution, the revolution will destroy them.

It is at last dawning upon the minds of the rulers of earth that Soviet Russia is here to stay, and they are now trying to devise means of preventing its spread to other nations. In this attempt, also, they are doomed to disappointment, for the revolution that has conquered in Russia has already taken root and before another decade has passed the workers of all the world under the crimson emblem of the Communist International will end for all time the nightmare of capitalist imperialism.

Until then, sons, husbands and brothers of the working class will continue to be herded like cattle in foreign lands to fight the battles of imperialist capitalism that the capitalist class itself is too damned cowardly to fight.

CZARISM IN AMERICA

The more or less peaceful citizens of the city of Chicago were startled Monday by the glaring headlines of the daily press announcing that a revolution had been nipped in the bud the previous night by the police force, that valiant upholder of "Law and Order." According to the yellow press, the I. W. W. invaded the loop district and immediately proceeded to start a riot, when the police opened fire upon them and after a heroic struggle successfully dispersed the "reds."

The facts are that the waiters' union, affiliated with the I. W. W., held a meeting on Sunday evening and voted a strike of the members in a number of chains of restaurants. The strike was to be called immediately, so a number of delegates started to make the rounds of the restaurants in a motor truck in order to inform the membership of the decision. A stool pigeon of the employers had attended the meeting and his employers notified the police of the move, so when the delegates arrived at the first restaurant they were met and assaulted by policemen. After beating a number of men and women, four of the members of the union were placed under arrest.

The newspapers had been tipped off regarding the "proposed attempt to start a revolution" and the reporters were there in order to properly distort the facts for the benefit of public misinformation.

This exhibition of police anarchy and brutality is only another example of the use of which the powers of government, city, state and nation, are put when the workers attempt to obtain anything for themselves. It should also teach the members of the I. W. W. that the state is not a myth, but a very

real instrument of oppression in the hands of the master class, and that it is used without any scruples whenever occasion demands. While it is necessary to organize into economic groups for the immediate struggle against the encroachments of the capitalist class, it is also necessary to wage the struggle for the conquest of the powers of state, in order that those powers may be used for the benefit of the working class; that instrument of oppression must be wrested from the hands of the ruling class and used as an instrument of emancipation in the hands of the workers.

FOOL OR KNAVE?

It is not often that we find prominent capitalists making such ignorant statements as that recently made by James A. Stillman, president of the National City Bank, New York.

In speaking of improvements he says: "All the improvements in industry by invention and the accumulation of capital, work for the benefit of labor." Of course, his making that statement is no sign that he himself believes it. One who would accept that statement as true would have to be ignorant indeed—even more so than a bank president or an automobile manufacturer.

Anything more than a superficial examination of the facts of the case will plainly demonstrate that improvements in industry do not work for the benefit of the working class. It has been a well known fact that improvements in production under capitalism have brought misery to the workers everywhere. This was so during the earliest development of the capitalist system, and it is so today.

With the introduction of machinery into the textile industries of England in the early days of capitalism the effect upon the working class was horrible. The advent of machine production first made itself felt in the world through the misery of the workers. If one doubts this let him read Gibbon's "Industrial of England." The workers, because of the suffering and ignorance, were led to the mistaken action of breaking the machinery. The phrase "machine breakers," which designated the groups organized for that purpose, has become a byword.

Nor have conditions changed with the modern development of capitalism. Each new improvement in industry brings more suffering for the working class. Piece work systems, more efficient machinery, and so on, cheapen production and produce more commodities with less labor power, but this does not benefit the workers under capitalism. The effect is just the opposite. Fewer workers are required to produce the same amount of commodities and the alternative generally is to lay off some of the workers. Each worker produces more wealth for the same amount of wages, consequently the ratio of his robbery is increased. Nor are these all the evils that are brought upon the working class by improvements in capitalistic production. Through improved production the needs of the world market are more quickly supplied and consequently the periodical crises that occur in the capitalistic system come more frequently.

The remedy is not to follow the lead of the early "machine breakers" by fighting against the development of production under capitalism. Fighting piece work systems, as does the A. F. of L., will not solve the problem. The solution lies in another direction. If we fight these improvements in production we place ourselves on a par with the stupid reactionary "machine breakers." We must take over the industries in the name of the working class and then the improvements will be a benefit to the workers. We will then produce for use and the workers will consume the product.

Possibly James A. Stillman is ignorant of these facts. Possibly his statement was handed out to be consumed by the gullible workers who think that just because a man is a successful capitalist only pearls of wisdom can drop from his mouth. At any rate, when we compare his statement with the economic facts, we must conclude that Mr. Stillman is either a fool or a knave.

THE WAY TO PEACE

European news persistently reports that the defeat of the Italian diplomats at Paris creates a fertile field for pro-German agitation among the Italian capitalists. The Italians have not received what they expected. They failed in their attempt to secure supremacy over the Adriatic. They have occupied Albania, but their foothold is insecure. In Asia Minor they find themselves in conflict with the ambitions of Greece, of France and England. By the time the spoils were divided there was nothing left for them. Balancing up their account after the war, the Italians find themselves the losers.

The German capitalists have taken advantage of the psychological moment to seek another alliance with the Italian capitalists. Obviously, such an alliance has two purposes: First, to break the iron ring which has been forged around Germany by the Allies; second, to endanger English-French hegemony upon the Mediterranean, in Northern Africa and Asia Minor. This alliance would spoil the well-laid plans of the Entente and make the "Hun" a menace again. In the north, Germany is seeking an economical agreement with Soviet Russia and in the east she is trying to strengthen herself by unity with Austria. And yet these are only plans, but the possibility of their being put into practice is such a menace that the Entente is already compelled to take defensive measures.

Two steps are proposed by the spokesmen of Entente capitalists to prevent this German-Italian alliance. One would be to help Italy in her present financial and economic crisis. The other would be to award to Italy such spoils in Africa and Asia as the peace conference has at its disposal.

If the peace conference fails to take these steps it must risk the German-Italian alliance and the revival of German imperialism. If the peace conference takes the steps it will advert the German-Italian alliance, but it will not insure the world against war.

To strengthen Italy will only place her in a position to be a stronger competitor in the imperialistic race. Her military system will have to be built to maintain the colonies that have been awarded to her. A fit condition to breed future wars.

By the time the capitalists have finished the work of dividing the spoils and the new spheres of influence have been determined, war conditions will have again extended to the entire capitalist world.

There is only one way in which peace may be kept. That is to transform capitalist production into communist production. There is only one road that leads to real peace and that is social revolution.

MARRIAGE IN RUSSIA

Again for the ten thousandth time a capitalistic reporter has been forced to admit that he could find no evidence proving the nationalization of women in Russia. It is hardly necessary to return to this subject as it is no longer a debatable question. If it were not for the fact that certain ignorant newspaper editors keep harping on the subject we would devote no further space to it. Driven on by their intense hatred of any successes on the part of the working class, they continually rehash this malicious lie about the nationalization of women in Russia. It will therefore not be out of place to comment on the latest news that comes from Russia.

Isaac Don Levine, a special correspondent of the Chicago Daily News, writing from Russia, confesses that there is absolutely no foundation for the tale. One of the questions that was uppermost in his mind upon his arrival in Russia was to ascertain the truthfulness of this story. He informs us that the people in Russia were very much surprised to find that this story had been taken seriously by the world. The Russians themselves refused to take it seriously and laughed at him or anyone else who believed it.

He says, in reference to the origin of the tale: "There was a humorous weekly in Petrograd. It was hostile to the Bolsheviks and to the Soviets. It had some clever writers on its staff. One of them, upon the promulgation of the Soviet decree simplifying marriage, conceived the idea of going a little further and outlining a decree for the nationalization of women. This product of the fertile imagination of a clever humorist was duly carried abroad and translated and published in Great Britain as an authentic government proclamation.

"Perhaps from the point of view of the old Russian order of life, the Soviet marriage decree was a startling novelty. But from the American point of view there was nothing radical about it."

It is, of course, hopeless to expect that the pen valets of the capitalists will repudiate their former statements on the marriage question in Russia. The matter is not discussed here for that purpose. They will undoubtedly continue to publish their lies about the situation. The entire matter has been made so ridiculous that some papers, such as the one quoted above, have been obliged to tell the truth about the matter. It will be noticed, however, that the truth is told in a much more inconspicuous place in their paper than was given to the original lies. All of which proves the contention that we have long made that the capitalist press is the prostitute of the capitalist class.

Interviewing Haywood on the Communist

We have heretofore had occasion to remark that the hack writers on the capitalist press never hesitate when ordered to commit a degenerate act at the behest of their masters.

A reporter for the Chicago Tribune who interviewed "Bill" Haywood last week clearly justified that charge. The excuse for the interview was the attempted strike of the waiters' union, affiliated with the I. W. W. After a few questions relative to the strike the following conversation ensued (according to the reporter):

Reporter—"Is the I. W. W. connected in any way with the Communists who are going to try to hold a convention in Chicago the first of September?"

Haywood—"Well, you see, them Communists are part of the old Socialist party. But what we're trying to do is to raise money to get our starving——"

Reporter—"But are your people connected with this bunch that wants a revolution right away, with a soviet government and all that?"

Haywood—"Well, d'ya know, I don't know much about this Communist proposition. I'll have to look it up."

Note carefully the atrocious grammar attributed to Haywood: "Well, you see, them Communists," etc. Although no one has ever accused Haywood of being an intellectual, still he is not an ignoramus, and is quite capable of handling the English language as well as the reporters for the Tribune. Such tactics on the part of the pen valets of capitalism seem to be in vogue recently. When the capitalist press accuses the labor leaders of ignorance and illiteracy no one pays any attention to it, so they now resort to the contemptible tactics of alleged quotations wherein language is butchered. This is done in order to convey the idea that the spokesmen of the workers are a bunch of driveling fanatics, not to be taken seriously by "intelligent people,"

but who should nevertheless be suppressed because of their effect upon the ignorant working class. This is merely another method of fighting the working class.

While taking a rap at Haywood and the I. W. W., the reporter, or the desk man who prepared the article for publication, also took occasion to refer to the Communist Party as a "bunch that wants a revolution right away." The intent here is to convey to the public the idea that the Communists are a gang of terrorists who are going "to lead a revolution." A perusal of our literature makes clear our position, which is to get the MAJORITY of the workers to accept our position as correct, then to take control of the powers of government in the interest of the workers.

We do not comment upon the tactics of this miserable scribbler and the institution he represents in order to induce the capitalist press to change its course. This comment is merely for the benefit of the working class organizations, so they will refuse to give information to any reporter. When the Communist Convention is called in Chicago on September 1st we will have our own newspaper representatives and the emissaries of capitalist journalism will find the doors barred to them. We will not permit them to inflame the minds of the public in order to cloak official brutality on the part of the ruling class. It is plain that such is the motive behind the newspaper talk about the Communist Convention.

This convention is called only for the purpose of organizing the political expression of the class conscious proletariat of the United States and we do not propose to be misrepresented by degenerates, hence our refusal to extend them the hospitality of our convention.

DANGER! LOOK OUT!

Senator Thomas of Colorado has asked the Congress of the United States to go on strike and stop legislating. You workers of America, do you realize how great a danger you face should congress go out on strike? Just imagine! There would be no one to pass the new espionage law, do you proletarians realize what that means? The master class, without an espionage law, may find some difficulty in railroading class conscious workers into prison. It will mean that there will be no money appropriated for the upkeep of the secret service and the army. Well may the wage slaves tremble for the master class may be without means of suppressing your strikes and deporting your leaders. How will "we" declare war on Mexico? Who will send the boys into Mexico to preserve "law and order"?

There is yet another danger. If the Congress goes on strike what guarantee have we that the Judiciary will not follow suit? Awake, ye slaves! If the judges go on strike, who then will issue injunctions against you? Who will sentence a Mooney or Debs or Billings to the penitentiary? Who will deal out "justice" to the I. W. W.?

But there is no such danger; we need not worry about it. The bosses, who are always for "law and order," are looking out. And the master class, unlike the proletarians, is united and will see that their hirelings in Congress and among the judiciary do not play any tricks which might endanger property rights. Maybe Senator Thomas was only joking.

The Plumb plan for joint control of the railroads is startling in its simplicity. The idea is to have the unions and the government combine against the capitalists.

Prepare Now for the Next War

There is no need to argue about it. Your personal observation of the trend of events must have convinced you that it is only a matter of months or perhaps weeks before this country will be at war with Mexico. Likewise, you are aware that the world situation is such that greater wars are a certainty within a very short time.

What are you going to do about it?

Are you building air castles, dreaming about what you will do when the next crisis arrives, or are you laying the foundation now for effective work later?

Right now there is unlimited opportunity for lining up the prospective cannon fodder. The Plunderbund is busy preparing the minds of the workers, quietly and insidiously the militarists are laying their plans.

We cannot stand idly by and allow this to go on. Our opportunity for presenting the proletarian viewpoint to the man on the street and the worker in the shop will not last long. We must take advantage of the present situation. To do otherwise would be to play into the hands of the enemy.

In THE COMMUNIST you have a mighty weapon with which to counteract the insidious poison now being injected into the minds of the workers. There is nothing more effective than a straightforward presentation of our program, and this you will find in no other paper. Nor is it enough that you subscribe yourself; you must do more than that; you must see to it that others read it every week.

Prepare for the next war now! Tomorrow never comes. **BEGIN TODAY!**

Appoint yourself a committee of one with full power to act. Don't wait for your local or branch—**YOU ACT!**

Remember, **FAILURE IS THE ONLY CRIME!**

Write today for a book of sub. blanks.

Socialism Debated

Dennis E. Batt vs. H. H. Nimmo.

A sixty-four-page pamphlet containing a debate which appeared in the Detroit Saturday Night, Feb. 15 to May 8, 1919. All phases of socialism are discussed. We have only a few hundred of these on hand. While they last the prices are:

Single copy, 10 cents

In lots of ten or more, per copy, 7 cents

Send orders to

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT, COMMUNIST PARTY
1219 Blue Island Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Application for Membership

COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA

I, the undersigned, recognizing the necessity for the organization of a Communist Party in conformity with the call issued for a convention to be held in the city of Chicago, Monday, September 1st, 1919, hereby make application for membership in said party.

Name

Address

Age..... Occupation.....

Previous affiliation.....
(Give name of organization and period of membership)

Admitted.....1919, Local or Branch.....

Secretary.....

Pacifism or Marxism?

A Reply to Scott Nearing

In these turbulent times, when the whole civilized world seethes with revolution, it is but natural that there should be much discussion and argumentation on the part of the learned and near-learned concerning the methods and means whereby the cause of human progress may best be served. Ideas and philosophies long discredited and discarded are everywhere being revived, renovated and twisted to fit modern conditions. The air is made oppressive with the vast concourse of voices raised by exponents of all manner of isms and ologies, each insisting that his is the very latest and only true gospel of salvation. However great may be the workers need of the material things of life, surely there is a plentitude of advice and counsel.

Comes Scott Nearing, sometime professor of economics, pacifist, socialist, neo-Christian and foremost American exponent of Non-Resistance (since Clarence Darrow turned militarist), with a pamphlet entitled "Violence or Solidarity, or Will Guns Settle It," wherein is set forth in glowing terms and up-to-the-minute illustrations the doctrines of the lowly carpenter of Nazareth, and extolling the efficacy of all-embracing love as a remedy for the ills of war-weary humanity.

The burden of the learned doctor's contention is that the use of force or violence is at all times and in all places unethical; that violence has in every instance failed to crush ideas and movements; that force when invoked to advance the cause of labor has always failed to accomplish the ends sought. Last but not least it is argued that the use of force is "against human nature."

In his own special field Scott Nearing enjoys something of a reputation as a man of science. In his class-room only that which will stand the test of analysis and demonstration is accepted as evidence. But, like many another, Nearing discards the scientific method upon leaving the portals of the university. The scientist gives way to the dreamer; in support of his contentions he cites not sociologists and economists but poets and idealists—Walt Whitman, Tom Paine, Jesus, Debs—and a single disconnected sentence from Nicolai Lenin!

Violence and the Suppression of Ideas

"Violence can have no effect on the ideas people hold and promulgate except to stimulate propaganda and advertise the cause against which violence is directed," says Nearing. This is indeed a comforting thought, but it is true?

The idea with which we are at present most deeply concerned, namely, the establishment of a communistic society, is not new. It was the idea back of Plato's ideal republic; it was current among the early Christians and attained wide circulation in Central Europe during the Middle Ages, several attempts being made to establish communistic communities. Prominent among these were the Taborites, the Hussites, the Anabaptists and the ill-fated movement led by Thomas Munzer. Some met with a temporary success, but all were in the end crushed by the superior forces of the feudal no-

bility, assisted by the Popes. In his excellent work, "Communism in Central Europe," Karl Kautsky describes the rise and fall of these movements, and makes the following rather interesting comment

"It is commonly asserted that ideas cannot be stamped out by violence. There are many proofs of the truth of this dictum, and it is comforting to all who are persecuted; but in this unqualified form it is not true. Admittedly, an idea itself cannot be annihilated by violence; but by itself alone an idea is a mere shadow, without any effective force. The strength to which a social ideal attains—and it is only this kind of an ideal which is under consideration—is dependent upon the individuals who uphold it—i. e., upon their power in society. If it is possible to annihilate a class which upholds a given idea then that idea will perish with its advocates."

The history of the Paris Commune furnishes but another illustration to disprove the assertion that ideas cannot be crushed by violence. Let Lissagaray tell how it was done.

"Twenty-five thousand men, women and children killed during the battle or after; three thousand at least dead in the prisons, the forts, the pontoons, or in consequence of maladies contracted during their captivity; thirteen thousand seven hundred condemned, most of them for life; seventy thousand women, children and old men deprived of their natural supporters or thrown out of France; one hundred and eleven thousand victims at least;—that is the balance sheet of the bourgeois vengeance for the solitary resurrection of the 18th March."

Thus were the workers of Paris crushed in 1871; even today they have not recovered from the blow. Clemenceau, premier of France, was a member of the Assembly which from Versailles directed the massacre of the Communards. Will violence crush ideas and movements? Ask "The Tiger"!

Violence in the Labor Movement

Dynamite placed in the hands of a child or an irresponsible person will wreak death and destruction; a knife in the hands of an enraged maniac results in murder. Yet it cannot be argued that knives or dynamite are in themselves evil and dangerous. On the contrary they render valuable service when properly used. The same may be said of force; it may in one case be used to suppress and enslave mankind, in another it may serve as the instrument of liberation.

Dr. Nearing contends that the use of force is at all times immoral; that the taking of human life is unjustifiable. Speaking of the revolutionary movement in Europe he says:

"The Russians won their point through economic justice at home, propaganda and open diplomacy . . ."

" . . . If they fail the Red Army will help them fail. If they win the Red Army will stand in the way of the thing they wish to accomplish. It will be a liability, not an asset."

"The cause for which the Spartacans are fighting in Germany will triumph, not because they are fighting, but because their triumph is inevitable . . ."

Guns will not settle any of these questions . . . Even when used to a good purpose they lead to a bad end."

"Why?"

Because the theory behind the use of guns is based upon an utter misconception of human nature."

Here we have it. Man is essentially a good, noble, altruistic being; gentle and loving. Such was the teaching of the gentle Nazarene; such is the teaching of every pacifist before and since. But even the slightest acquaintance with human history proves how silly is this

conception. Even the most superficial observer of the revolutionary movement in Europe must be aware that had not the Bolsheviks, the Spartacans and the Hungarian communists had the courage of their convictions and backed up their ideas with armed force their attempts to establish proletarian domination would have been still-born.

From time immemorial men have settled their quarrels through bloodshed, and until such time as conclusive evidence is produced to show that "human nature" has been fundamentally changed in recent times, we shall be inclined to believe that force will play its part in the struggle of the workers against their present masters.

We are just as much opposed to the injudicious use of force as is Dr. Dearing. We fully agree that guns are no substitute for solidarity (which implies class consciousness). But there is a real and fundamental difference between the pacifism which says "The use of force is at all times wrong" and the purely expedient tactic which declares "Force at this time is inadvisable; we are not ready." In the proper time and place a regiment of revolutionary soldiers have a part to play—providing, of course, that they have knowledge in their heads as well as guns in their hands.

The whole matter of force or violence in the labor movement is not a question of ethics at all, but is determined by the force of circumstances, by necessity. The entire argument put forth by Nearing falls to the ground the moment we examine its foundation; it is basically unsound. All that is necessary is to remove it from the moral field and examine it in the light of historical materialism. Being an idealist, Nearing does not accept the Marxian philosophy. This in itself should be sufficient to brand him as unfit to pass judgment upon questions of proletarian tactics.—A. J. M.

Chicago policeman, to friend on car:

"Yeah, that's the red's hangout. Print a paper there, and hold meetings to preach free love.

"The *-.! XX! !!! X@**!

"Huh?"

"Oh, yes, still living at the same place. Gonna move soon. Rent raised again.

"Yeah, everything's gone up. Uh-huh.

"S'long."

For men to settle their differences and arrange amicably their relations would be "agin human nature."

ON WITH THE WAR!

(Continued from Page 3)

its possibilities on the day when it decides that the capitalist system with its horrors to our class and its ever-accompanying blighting network of artificial starvation and famine which it creates, shall pass away from the earth!

Again and again let us insist upon the "reading of many books the earnest consideration of over many subjects" which directly lie in our path.

But above all spread the glad tidings of proletarian emancipation to all our class.

John Davis.

The Hireling Who Failed

The move we anticipated two weeks ago on the part of Kolchak, the monarchist adventurer and hireling of Allied imperialism, has materialized and this heroic defender of the faith has unceremoniously moved from the former seat of his government, Omsk, to Irkutsk, thirteen hundred miles away. When Kolchak first became a factor against the Bolsheviki, the entire capitalist press of this nation, administration and anti-administration alike, hailed him as the savior of the world. As month after month passed and the Red Army continued unchecked against him the attitude of the anti-administration papers has changed from one of loyal support and unstinted praise to vituperative denunciation.

The only exception to this attitude on the part of the capitalist class was that of such publications as the "Nation", the "Dial" and the "New Republic." These publications represented the interests of the small manufacturing capitalists of the United States who wanted to establish economic relations with Soviet Russia in order to dispose of their products. They cloaked their material interests under the guise of desiring "self-determination of peoples." Speaking for the petty bourgeois they were unable to comprehend the fact that the success of the proletarian revolution in Russia meant the spread of the Bolshevik propaganda to other countries and threatened not only the existence of the large imperialist capitalists, but of the capitalist class as a whole. Other publications, frankly representing imperialism, advocated a declaration of war against Soviet Russia, in order to help Kolchak establish a capitalist government in Russia. The only thing that prevented a declaration of war on the part of the Allies was the fear of arousing the masses of workers in their own countries against the Allied governments. The Wilsonian policy of intervention and aggressive warfare without the preliminary of a declaration of war was carried to the utmost extreme. The history of Allied intervention in Russia is a history of infamy and the statesmen who conspired against Soviet Russia have written into the pages of history a record of shame for themselves that all the panegrics of the pen valets of imperialism can never efface.

Now that the hireling, Kolchak, has failed and his army dispersed before the onward sweep of the Bolshevik army, under the crimson emblem of Communist Internationalism, the reptile press, or that portion of it representing the anti-administration forces, true to its snake nature has turned upon this imperialist failure and is stabbing him to death with its venom. The Chicago Herald-Examiner, a publication which devotes columns to denunciation of the revolutionists in the United States, now speaks against the intervention of the United States army in Russia in an editorial which appeared in the issue of Aug. 20th, under the caption "Worse than a Crime":

Kolchak has shifted his headquarters back from Omsk to Irkutsk. Neither name conveys much to most of us. But when the map shows that Irkutsk is nearly thirteen hundred miles farther from Moscow than Omsk, the case is clearer. It is as if Kolchak, having designs on Washington, shifted his center of operations

from Chicago to Salt Lake City. This strategic move is explained as a "normal setback to a healthy cause."

Outside of the administration, how many people in the United States can swallow such an explanation? How many are there who have not been convinced for months that Kolchak, whatever he represents—and what he represents seems very dark and doubtful—is not wanted by the Russians? And if he is not wanted, why on earth are young Americans alternately burning a little while and freezing a long while, with intervals of being shot and bayoneted, in his support?

Even the Gallipoli campaign was the subject of court martial investigation in England. And the only objections to the Gallipoli campaign were that it was badly conceived and feebly supported. Our Russian—or, rather, our Siberian—venture adds to these the crowning stupidity of being a campaign which, if successful, would have been unwelcome.

It is hoped that Japan enjoys the spectacle of young America being sacrificed to a spirit to proud to stop fighting. For it saddens and disgusts everybody else.

Had Kolchak been successful, no matter what he really represented, he would have been lauded by the Herald-Examiner and every other paper, and the Wilson administration's attitude toward him would have been justified in the columns of the entire plute press. That would have necessitated an attack by the anti-administration organs upon some other phase of his policy. The only crime one can commit is to fail. Kolchak is not denounced because of the death train of

Siberia, or the putting to death of men, women and children who are suspected of harboring Bolsheviki sympathies, but only because he failed. He failed because he could not marshal sufficient forces to crush the Bolsheviki. His weakness proved that he was wrong. Had he been victorious he would have been right, for the victor is always right, because back of him is the power that has made possible the victory.

"Might is Right!"

Might has been right throughout all previous history of the world; it is right today, and it will be right in all the aeons of ages that stretch before us in the unknown future. Whatever else history may hold in its bosom for mankind, we know there will only be one wrong, and that will be failure, and only one right, and that will be might.

The ruling class is beginning to recognize the fact that Bolshevism is right for Russia, because it is capable of defending itself, while it is wrong in all other countries because it has not yet acquired sufficient power. When the workers of all countries, like those of Russia, have raised themselves to the position of the ruling class and proclaimed the Dictatorship of the Proletariat of the world, anything they do will be right, because they will have the might to enforce it.

THE INVISIBLE CLUB

Terrible is the weapon used by the master class. Death through starvation is awful, but is there any way out of it under the present system of society. Will submission to the exploiters save us from starvation? No. Hungary submitted, the Hungarian workers lost courage and surrendered, and what happened? The hirelings of capitalism (the Roumanian army) is laying bare fertile Hungary and misery has increased ten-fold. Did the German workers save themselves from starvation by submitting to slavery? Do the American workers save themselves from starvation by submission. No. They only make the process longer.

So long as there is wage slavery so long will the workers be ever on the verge of starvation. For the master class controls all the necessities of life and they can shut off the food supplies at any time. Only by destroying the system of wage slavery can the workers become masters of their own lives. But wage slavery will not be abolished by strikes of separate unions or by one big union. To

be organized economically is not enough, they must be organized politically to gain control of the State, using its powers in their great struggle to rid themselves of the social parasites who at the present time control the means of production and the goods for distribution.

"Liberty, Fraternity, Equality" was the rallying cry of the revolutionary bourgeoisie at the cradle of capitalism; the slogan "Make the World Safe for Democracy" is the litany chanted at the brink of its grave.

The only criticism we find of the Hungarian workers is that they did not fight until the last man fell rather than submit again to the dictatorship of capitalist imperialism. But even out of this defeat a lesson has been gained; that lesson is to never let any sentimental scruples interfere with the iron dictatorship of the proletariat once again they gain supremacy.

FORWARD TO MEXICO!

(Continued from Page 1)

tween two trenches; yet it is to protect his oil interests that American soldiers will be there. Nor will we read of the carcass of William Randolph Hearst furnishing a banquet for buzzards upon the bleached plains of Mexico while protecting his land interests; yet sons of the working class will die for him.

One lesson the workers must learn is that this stage of capitalistic develop-

ment is essentially warlike and that wars will continue just as long as capitalism lasts. The defeat of Germany was not the end of all wars, as we were told it would be, and the defeat of Mexico will not end imperialistic aggression, but only accelerate it.

In the struggle for imperialistic supremacy the workers have nothing to gain. Their interests is not to subdue Mexico, but to destroy capitalism.