Devoted to the Cause of the Left Wing Socialists

# THE

Workers of the World, Unite! You have a World

to Gain!

A JOURNAL OF REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST RECONSTRUCTION

Vol. I. No. 7

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1917

RESIST THE TERROR!

5 cents a Copy

#### The I.W.W. in Action

BY CHARLES MARTEL

THE Far West and the Middle West are in revolt. In Minneapolis, St. Paul, Detroit, Indianapolis, Cincinnati and St. Louis great movements against Conscription have been in action, with the Socialist Party as the center of it all. Hundreds of members of the party in those sections are under arrest or in jail because of their revolutionary activity.

Instead of abating, the activity is increasing in scope and intensity. Discontent in the West is exceptionally strong. And it is organized discontent. This may seem peculiar, in view of the fact that the western states are about the only ones that have tilled their quotas a for the regular army and the National Guard. But the enlistments are not so much a result of a sentiment for war, as really. The age of miracles is again in of an adventurous spirit among the youth in that section. The proletarian West is emphatically and actively thing that passeth understanding. Acagainst the war.

Now we have an industrial revolt, apparently directed by the L. W. W. But it does not seem to be confined wholly to the I. W. W. It is an extensive and spontaneous revolt against unbearable prices and industrial conditions generale mines, lumber camps and on the farms strikes are developing rapidly and the workers organizing. In its genesis the activity seems to have been of purely industrial origin. But the employers, using the war as a pretext, have made charges of German money, etc., and the strikers have been most brutally treated. They have been deported out of strike zones by the thousands, and left to starve in the wilderness. In one case, among a batch of deported strikers were found men who owned their own homes and who had invested in Liberty Bonds. What a delicious satire on the liberty that we are asked to sacrifice our all for! So brutal and high-handed were the actions of the minions of the employers. including public officials that President Wilson was compelled to censure the authorities-mildly, it is true, but a censure none the less,

The strikes originated in Butte, Montana, and it is significant to note that President Mover of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers expelled the local there because it was dominated by the I. W. W., and accused the I. W. W. of being financed by German

But the most important feature of the whole situation is that the strikes are a splendid example of mass ection. While thousands upon thousands of men are involved, the name of no single in dividual stands out in the reports,-the workers have organized and directed their own revolt. In that fact lies equally its strength and its importance. Everywhere the officials of the labor unions are lying down miserably, and it is only the action of the membership itself that can stir things up for their own advantage. The day has gone by when the American working class will tolerate being misled by its officials,

The) action is spreading. Montana, Arizona, New Mexico and Washington are the scenes of the most intense activity. By the time the harvest is ready to be reaped, the strikes will cover the whole West, as the I. W. W. is steadily at work organizing the harvest hands. And the workers are falling rapidly in line, determined to strike a blow for better conditions against their oppressors.

Strikes in this crisis inevitably assume a political character. The employers will use patriotism as a means of bludgeoning the workers into submission. The Socialist Party particularly, and revolutionists generally, should use all their power to support these and all other es-movements of the workers.

# complished fact in America. Com-

shut, if you don't stray on the streets, you realize that the first duty of the zen is to obey the mandates of the governing powers and attempt absolutely no criticism of the hypocrisy of pretending to fight for democracy in Germany and crushing democracy in America,then all is well and the safety of democracy an accomplished fact. But if you don't, then you are ruthlessly crushed, for in order to make the rest of the world safe for democracy, we must submit to autocracy in America.

The process of imposing autocracy to promote a mythical democracy seems illogical and insincered But it isn't, the world. It is a miracle that the ruling class is performing, and a miracle is a cept, and doubt not!

The situation is serious.' Socialist and radical papers are being denied the mails among them the International Socialist Review, the American Socialist and The Masses. Denial of the mails is a preliminary step to complete suppression. Moreover, the distribution of often perfectly harmless leaflets is being curbed by the simple agency of arresting the distributors on preposterous charges of disorderly conduct. The owners of halls are being intimidated into refusing to rent them out for So-\*cialist meetings. In New York City it is virtually impossible to secure a hall in which to hold a meeting for the repeal of the Conscription Law.

Not satisfied with this, the representatives of Law and Order are raiding meetings, provoking disorder and riot, freely using their clubs and making indiscriminate arrests.

The most outrageous case of this sort ccurred this month in Boston. A parade held by the Workingmen's Council was stormed by soldiers and sailors in uniform, men, women and children beaten, their faces smashed and their clothes torn to shreds. The revolutionary flags in the parade seemed particularly to arouse the ire of the ruffians. The assault was general and unprovoked. It was a reign of terror. And the police did not interfere. When the parade got to the Common, in spite of the assaults, the police charged upon the crowd of 30,000, stopped the meeting and indiscriminately used their clubs in dispersing the people. But the fury of the soldiers and sailors that are to make the world safe for democracy was not satisfied. They marched to the local headquarters of the Socialist Party, broke into the rooms and smashed all the furniture they could lay their hands upon, the books from the library being hurled into the street.

Nor is this campaign of terror sporadic. It seems to be general and organized. The government is shaky. The people are not at all enthusiastic for the war. Frenzied demands are being made upon the president for a declaration that will "stir up" the people, and councils are held to determine upon a campaign to "educate" the people into the meaning of the war. A really significant sign of the times was the dismal failure of "recruiting week." The president issued a call for volunteers, 70,000 volunteers, to fill up the regular army; and less than 20,000 enlisted, in spite of the president's call and the insistent appeals of posters, newspapers and portly patriotic gentlemen. The country is not against the war, nor is it for the war; it is disinterested and apathetic. This is the danger for the government. Apathy may be turned into active discontent by agitators, especially when people begin to

THE safety of democracy is an ac- feel the borden of conscription and the resolution of the Socialist Propaganda sorrow of the casualty list. The agita- League, and I know that Hillquit's in-

By LOUIS C. FRAINA pletely safe! If you keep your mouth tors and their agitation must be crushed. terpretation was not in my mind, nor in And it must be crushed particularly the mind of the comrades who favored at this time, when he draft is only a the resolution, nor in the mind of Louis few weeks away. The governing power- . H. Boudin who was responsible for its are nervous. The sentiment against introduction into the Majority Report conscription may be gauged by the fact at the St. Louis Convention. The phrase



that apparently a million eligibles did not register and that 60 per cent, of the registrants claimed exemption. Resistance is anticipated. The draft riots of the Civil War may be repeated and exceeded to-day. This is not imagination. It is fact. And the government is preparing itself by arresting the agitators, terrorizing the people, and crushing the

revolutionary press.

It is the task of the Socialist movement to resist the terror. There is no alternative. Acquiescence would be ethically unjustifiable and tactically suicidal. Thousands upon thousands of men and women have become members of the Socialist Party since the declaration of war. They have joined the party primarily because they see in the party an instrument of protest and action against the reaction. They want to fight. If we do not fight, we shall not only lose these new members but our own integrity. Principles and expediency equally impose a course of action upon the Socialist Party. And since the Majority Report has been accepted overwhelmingly by the party as its program on the war, there can be no equivocation based on the assumption that the party has no: yet spoken. The party has spoken, and in unmistakable words. It is now our task to put through the program of action by all means in our power. No compromise!

We should not, however, ignore the fact that there is a tendency to compromise in the party. A portion of the bureaucracy is satisfied with a "magnificent gesture" in the form of a documentary declaration against the war. Moreover, Morris Hillquit, in an article some time ago, declared that "all means in our power" includes only lawful means and those means that the government allows us to use! This interpretation is absolutely wrong. The phrase is taken from a resolution I introduced in Local New York, subsequently adopted by Local Kings County, and incorporated in the

means exactly what it says, and nothing

Another discouraging manifestation is an editorial in the New York Call of July 3, on the Boston outrage. It is an extraordinarily pessimistic editorial, of which can be discouragement and paralysis of action. The Call says:

'Can we do nothing more than denounce these performances as an 'outrage'?' Is it possible to get the protection of the law that is theoretically due us, or are we, and all people who advocate a general and speedy peace, to remain as outlaws? Is there any machinery we can set in motion to curb these riotous mobs? If so, the sooner we dis-

cover and apply it the better. And, if not, what then? Are we to go along, offering ourselves as sheep to the slaughter? Are we to expose ourselves constantly to the fury of riot that, to all appearances, may pass over into murder, unchecked by the law? Are we to voluntarily offer our headquarters to pillage, destruction and incendiarism? Is this the duty of every Socialist, to go right ahead as we are going and take the consequences, which already we have seen and which, apparently, will follow in every similar case?

"Or shall we abandon this form of propaganda as impossible? Shall we passively accept the war as an existing condition, against which we can do nothing in direct opposition, and turn our attention to other phases of those results, which we may, perhaps, use to advantage for ultimate Socialism?

"We frankly confess that we cannot answer these questions. It is the Socialist party that must decide, and that decision, one way or the other, must be made as speedily as possible."

Instead of a clear call to action, the Call miserably offers pessimism, equivocation, and the hint of compromise!

There is only one answer: We cannot pandon this form of propaganda. It is

worth while. Demonstration should be piled upon demonstration. Our determination will answer the assaults of the soldiers. They cannot conquer determination: it is invincible. And if they go too far, we shall still not give up our rights. The democracy that once was America was created by resistance to tyranny and wrong.

No, we cannot "passively accept the war as an existing condition." That was the animating spirit of the miserable Minority Report, and it was humiliatingly defeated. There is no way of achieving "ultimate Socialism" except through immediate action. The masses can be organized only through education and action. Of what value is "ultimate Socialism" if we compromise our action today? It was in the interests of fultimate Socialism" that the German Social Democracy justified its abandonment of revolutionary Socialism, an abandonment that led straight to the disastrous-collapse of 1914.

Moreover, the issue is deeper. Demonstrations develop the spirit of mass action in the proletariat. And mass action develops independence, integrity and fighting spirit. The proletariat must develop its own action, in its own way. through its own mass activity. Decades of wrong tactics, of making the proletariat rely on forces outside itself, may be righted by fitting action to-day. Our action may not achieve immediate tangible results, but it will set a precedent and develop moral and physical reserves for the future. Is it, then, only for to-day that we are fighting?

Demonstrations in the streets, without ny violence (except perhaps the violence of the representatives of law and order), are a revolutionary form of action. They create an impression. They arouse enthusiasm, and the spirit of action and solidarity. Do the soldiers, sailors and police disperse the demonstrations? Splendid! They are emphasizing our ideas. They are contributing mightily toward destroying the apathy typical of the Call, the only consequence of the people which is the great obstacle to action

Crowds are not cowards. I have seen conscription riots, and it is ominous the way a crowd refuses to disperse in spité of the brutal behavior of the police. Crowds may not act, but at least they do not run away. An outrage doesn't frighten them, it angers them. The action of the crowd develops out of out-

I am not preaching violence. I am not urging retaliations. Peace is the great power, moral and physical, that crowds possess. Against a crowd that does not retaliate and still refuses to disperse, the violence of soldiers, sailors and police is helpless. Moral resistance is itself an aggressive act of resistance. The individual alone is helpless; in a demonstration en masse the individual becomes a moral and physical giant.

Out upon the streets, men and women of the proletariat!

They cannot crush you. They cannot destroy the ideas you represent. They dare not push things too far-they fear

The strength of the mass is the fear of the tyrant. The German autocracy has the mightiest engines of force in the world, vet it prohibits proletarian demonstrations in the streets of Berlin. In France, in Italy, in England, the power\_Left Wing. In fact, the old by laws and of militarism trembles for the future when the workers organize demonstrations in the streets. The revolution in Russia was made in the streets of Petrograd.

At any moment, the apathy of the American people may transform itself into active discontent. Our action today contributes toward that transformation. Organize and act!

#### The New Party in Germany

BY S. J. RUTGERS

THE April Conference in Gotha resulted in a new party: The Independent Social Democratic Party of

Does this mean that the Left Wing forces in Germany have united on the basis of a common program, declaring war against the traitors within the old party and an uncompromising fight against the new forces of Imperialism and against all Capitalist wars? On the contrary, it means that the radical Left Wing forces have split into two groups. It is not true that only the rather insignificant group of the International Socialists of Germany (I. S. D.) did not join the new party. The Left Wing groups in Bremen, Hanover and Hamburg, which find their expression in the Arbeiterpolitik, strongly opposed unity with the Center group or "swamp" into one party, and they decided to remain independent. Other groups, i. e., in Duisburg and Berlin VI, also opposed, but finally submitted to the maperity of the "International Group." Our Dutch Left Wing Paper, The Tribune, states, moreover, that Franz Mehring and Karl Liebknecht did not join or approve of the new party.

And those who remember the letter of Liebknecht printed in issue No. 7 of the Internationalist will understand this position. Liebknecht specifically warns against combining with the eighteen of the "neither flesh nor fish" policy: "The formal combination of all kinds of indefinite oppositional feelings and motives is always a great danger, especially so in a time of world changes. This means confusion and dragging along on old lines, it sterilizes and kills the militant elements which get into this mixed

We should not overlook the fact that the group "Labor Community" tried its best to stay in one party with the Scheidemanns and that they only decided to initiate a new party after they were thrown out of the old Socialist Party. The opinion of the members of the "International group" towards the Center generally is one of contempt, and even the Kampf, the weekly published in Duisburg by members of the International group and in favor of joining the new party, considers this only a temporary measure. The feelings of good will of these Left Wingers towards the Ledebour-Haase-Kautsky group with whom they now unite into one party, may be learned from the way the Kampi writes about the "political impotence." helplessness and hopelessness of the socalled opposition, of which the latest peace manifesto of Kautsky is a classical example." The Kampf goes so far as to call this the refutation of Socialism.

Although joining into one party together with the Center, the members of the "International Group" will continue to carry on their own propaganda and claim full liberty to criticise the "swamp" policy of the "Labor Community."

One may wonder what arguments could be used to defend the getting together into one party of such heterogeneous elements, especially in view of the fact that the new party did not accept any program of principles or action, which might appeal to the radical the program of the old Socialist Party were endorsed and readjustment postponed until after the war. International disarmament and compulsory international arbitration, considered both utopian and reactionary by the followers of Liebknecht and Mehring, were picked up from the dumpheap of bourgeois phraseology, and no definite stand was

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#### The New Party in Germany

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taken in favor of uncompromisingly rejecting defensive wars. A general statement of relentless opposition against the Majority Party does not make a big impression after you have tried hard to stay in that party as long as possible, and have been thrown out against your will. A relentless opposition against the government lacks force as long as you do not explain by what means this fight has to be carried on. Even the Majority Party now votes against war credits and the Center group did absolutely nothing to encourage the strike movement and develop it into a more general class action.

The two main arguments given for a united party at this moment are as follows: The revolutionary Left Wing puts its hope in mass action and expects to reach greater masses of workers through the new party, because a great part even of those workers who are in opposition to the old methods still look upon the Center as their spiritual leader. This argument may as well be used for any affiliation with even the most reactionary groups of labor, and overlooks the fact that under the present conditions of readjustment clarity of purpose and sharpness of demarcation are most needed.

The second argument is, that mass action will develop only under certain historical conditions. As long as these conditions do not arise, the radical Left Wing is bound to remain a rather small group, criticising and educating without a fair chance for action. As soon, however, as mass actions develop, the Left Wing will become the natural leader anyway, no matter what the form of organization. The form of organization, therefore, is considered of minor importance and we might as well join the "swamp" to get a broader hearing This argument seems not very strong. because if the organization of our press ent forces is not considered very important, we might as well form a clear-cut revolutionary group, unhampered by the poisonous gas emanating from every "swamp." But the whole reasoning is utterly false, because you cannot make this sharp distinction between periods in which mass-movements develop and periods of relative calmness. It may be perfectly relevant that more revolutionary periods sometimes break out with elemental force; this does not do away with the fact that such periods to a certain extent are the outbreak of accumulated influences gathered during a period seemingly barren in developments. In certain revolutionary periods the leadership may fall automatically to the Left Wing, but the results of this leadership greatly depend upon the achievements during the previous period. Results will be influenced by the self-consciousness of the Left Wingers and by whether they are considered reliable, and both of these elements are greatly injured by opportunist coalitions with middlegroup Socialists.

The majority of the "International Group" evidently thinks that it can have this freedom within the new "Independent Party." Another part and probably the most active part is convinced that under present conditions affiliation with the Center in a regular party without any half-way acceptable program is bound to become a failure, even when accepted only as a temporary measure.

This means a regretful split in the Left Wing, and developments in Germany since do not show an increase in revolutionary spirit or action. It is a specific feature of any "swamp" to swallow whoever struggles to keep his head above the general level, and it is to be feared that the hope for the future now rests with a reduced number of fighters outside of the new party. Arbeiterpolitik holds the banner of this group and there may be a ray of light in the decision of the group in Hamburg. which not only refused to join the new combination, but decided that the time was ripe to constitute a new Socialist organization in which the economic and political struggles will have to be fought as one and inseparable. Here is the dawn of the new hope, of new forms for the new struggle.

The "Independent Social Democratic Party" does not constitute a unit, neither of thought and principle nor of action, and it leaves outside of its organization groups of the most active elements for the reorganization of the Socialist forces of the future.

# COMMODITY CONSEQUENCES

By AUSTIN LEWIS

ABOR power is a commodity. In peace times we hear no objection to the statement; on the contrary, the employers and their economists strongly uphold it as the corner-stone of the system. The modern system depends upon this fact, and it is a fact, all sentimental vociferation to the contrary notwithstanding. The fact that organizations of labor do not come under the provisions of the Sherman Act means no more than that labor is such a commodity as does not come under the Act, and is no victory over the commodity conception of labor-power, as many of the labor leaders have claimed. It is merely an admission that the enforcement of the law against labor organizations would be practically impossible, as indeed must be the case, in view of the numbers violating, the difficulty of prosecution and the political effects of

At the sitting of the Industrial Commission in San Francisco one of the leading Federation of Labor officials was very angry because it was testified that the A. F. of L. took the commodity view of labor-power, and pointed out with much emphasis that the A. F. of I.. spokesmen had taken quite the other view in the debate in Congress. Superficially, that is true, but in reality it is untrue, for the whole argument of the Federation exponents rests upon a ridiculous and obvious fallacy. They contended that labor is not a commodity, for labor is life. As if life itself could not be a commodity, could not be bought and sold in the market, and as if it were not the glaring and atrocious fact of modern social and industrial arrangements that life is just that sort of a commodity. Labor-power is life in that it is inseparable from the person of the living laborer, and just because it is so inseparable, with the sale of laborpower we have coincidently the sale of life, upon the same terms as any other commodity is sold, the best price that can be had for it in the market at a given time.

labor-power from the operations of the Sherman Act was something vastly more important than the affirmation of a mere untruth, or of something which could only be true as far as the operations of that particular Act might go. It was the raising of labor from a commodity to a status as far as the Act was concerned. If Organized Labor cannot grasp this, if tion that it cannot comprehend the significance of the result, so much the worse for Organized Labor. Make no mistake that the intellectuals of organized capital see it, and have made the air hideous with their ululations that the unions have constituted themselves superior to the law and have won for their commodity, labor-power, a position transcending that of other commodities (i. e., have acquired status). And the practical importance of this lies in the conclusion that the path of labor is not to be the old-fashioned liberal path of the old and now comfortably dead social democracy, but the new path which leads to status, call it syndicalism, guild socialism or what you will.

The exclusion of the organizations of

But this by the way; granted that labor power is a commodity and that the laborer is the seller of the commodity, now is the time to insist upon an abiding by that doctrine which is so persistently preached in the piping times of peace, when men are only quietly murdered by means from which the gentle pacifist does not shy. War has raised the value of the commodity laborpower. Why should not the owner of that commodity insist upon having the benefit of the increase and the market doing its duty by him in times of prosperity? We are familiar with the reply of the outraged employer when confronted with an agitation for higher wages or when rebuked for the inhuman standards prevalent in industries exploited under the laisser-faire practice. He washes his hands of all responsibility, maintains that the matter is none of his; says that he does not make the labor market; holds that if workers do not like a job they can leave it; argues that there is no compulsion, that the market is an open market and that there is plenty of material at current

The employer has always insisted upon this commodity aspect of labor, and the workers themselves have not done otherwise. "A fair day's pay for

a fair day's work" has been the slogan, and in the last half century, millions of tired slaves have passed through the streets of our cities behind banners bearing this significant device. They made it perfectly obvious that the commodity position was good enough for them, and that all they asked was a free market and the right of all dealers to organize for their own benefit.

So far there is little doubt that among the workers capable of organization, at least, there has been little tendency to quarrel with the commodity concept. Occasionally, of course, humanity has transcended the commodity concept. The human heart has refused to bear the pain of conditions into which unregulated laisser faire plunged large bodies of helpless workers, and the politician has legislated for the perpetuation of the race, as they legislate about the preservation of forests. But Organized Labor has not viewed these encroachments of the state upon the free market with any marked approval, or it has more or less indifferently seconded the efforts of the philanthropist and the practical statesman. And now we get the quite horrifying demand of the State Federation of New York that those legislative enactments passed for the benefit of the helplessly unorganized sections of labor should be allowed to lapse during war time. This is the crudest and most diabolically cruel resolution of any body of organized labor in the history of the modern world. Even the capitalistic agents have not contemplated any such perversion, and the whole experience abroad during the war has required the extension rather than the diminution of such protection in the interests of mere efficiency.

For better or worse the organized labor bodies are wedded at present to the commodity concept. They have the mind of the dominant class and their contribution to the problem ethically and economically is nil. But we know that the "servile state" will have something to say at the end of the war which will make the ears of the labor leaders burn. For the present, however, we are justified in demanding that the labor leaders stand by their idols and that they should employ their commodity concept for the advantage of the labor movement and the development of organization.

Our capitalistic economists are very

insistent upon the supremacy of the law of supply and demand, which applies equally to the human and material elements of production and exchange They will act on their theory to the full, at least their employers will, and wift demand for all the commodities which they control at least the full market value, even where they do not make artificial combinations and surreptitiously corner the market. We know that all the governments have been obliged to take extraordinary precautions against fraud and extortion on the part of the business groups, and that they have had to accede to unreasonable demands under the pressure of conditions. In spite of all their precautions, the war profits mount in the most horrific tashion; and the government of Britain. to save its face, has been obliged to impose war-profit taxes to the amount of sixty per cent, which it is now proposed to raise to eighty per cent. In spite of all this, however, profits constantly pile up and new millionaires, conspicuous for their arrogance and extravagance. spring out of the chaos of the war. Commodity prices are maintained and the market will not be baulked. Even in Germany, where the organization is supposed to be complete and where the government is credited with an approach to evenhandedness in its control of the "interests," where Holy State can impose its decrees impartially on capitalist and proletarian alike, even there the industrial capitalists have taken the bit in

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their teeth and the dividends of the manufacturing firms bear witness to the weakness of mere political government in dealing with such implacably obstinate things as commodities.

The scarcity of commodities incident upon the war places the industrial and commercial exploiters where they cannot avoid making great profile. The general misfortune is their good fornine. They draw inordinate profit from the public misery. Even the sums which they advance in the form of bonds are excellent investments and tend to secure their own position and that of their children. They are in the happy position that everything they touch must turn to gold whether they will or not. They must profit by the war unless the government took the only logical step of onfiscating all profits in excess of average profits before the war. But governments are not like that, and could not afford to be so. The reply of the wning classes to such a measure would be a refusal to advance capital or to use their workshops; for capitalistic patriotism has its limits, and these are reached directly business is interfered with, since business is more holy than Holy State itself. The only reply of the government would be confiscation, that is the abolition of the capitalist class; and no government will commit hari-kari, even for the sake of victory. The exloiters must be humored if the system to continue and commodity values must be realized.

The commodity labor-power, like thers, rises in value during the period of war. It is destroyed in large quantities and the demands for it are contantly increasing. We know that all labor is fully occupied in all the countries at war and that the demand is so great that the apparently insuperable margin of unemployed has been de troyed and that most of the crimes incidental to poverty have disappeared along with the poverty. But we know also that there has been no attempt on the part of the laboring people, anywhere to realize upon the increased due of their own commodity in the labor market. Wherever the least tendency in that direction has become manifest the governments which have submitted in silence to the most shameless capitalistic robbery have turned loose their journalistic and platform pack in pursuit of the unpatriotic laborers who have dared to declare that, labor being a commodity, they will demand for labor a return such as all other commodities receive, its price in the market.

For labor to constantly submit to this sort of governmental dragooning is fatuous folly. If anyone thinks that the possessors of other commodities, patriotism notwithstanding, are going to emerge from this war poorer by sacrificing the economic values of the commodities which they control, he is very much mistaken. The entrepreneur may send his sons to the war, and submit to taxation, he may grumblingly invest his surplus funds in national securities, but he will never surrender his claim to the full value of the commodities which he controls. To do so would mean his ruin; it would imply the speedy termination of his economic superiority.

Such a surrender on the part of labor is no less ruinous. The rise in the prices of necessary commodities means an essential reduction in the actual wage unless such wage is raised to meet the new conditions. And how is the wage standard to be raised except by combined effort to raise it? Such effort will be met with indignation and vituperative insult by the dominant class, and they will pour out on that portion of the working class which first takes up the burden of the fight the vials of their most violent wrath, as in the case of the South Wales miners.

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Only by combination to raise wages, to realize the value of the commodity labor-power, can the economic position of labor be so preserved that the horrible reaction after the war will not drag it back into the abyss from which it has with difficulty extricated itself. The very economic position of labor as a whole is dependent upon the action of Organized Labor in this respect.

As for the moral effect which is after all much more important in the long run—that does not belong to this discussion.

#### Lenin on the Russian Revolution

A FTER his departure for Russia, Lenin wrote a letter to his Swiss comrades, in which he reaffirms his position that if the Revolution in Russia brings a republican government and government should be willing to carry on an imperialistic war, together with the imperialistic governments of France and England for the conquest of Constantinople, Armenia, Galicia, etc., he will uncompromisingly fight this government and the war "for the defense of the fatherland."

Lenin had been asked what would be his position suppose the Socialists would get into power now, to which he answers: 1.—We would offer peace to all people involved in the war on the following peace terms: a) Immediate deliverance of all colonies of all countries: b) immediate deliverance of all suppressed people. 2.—We would start immediately with the deliverance of all people suppressed by the Russians.

"We do not doubt for a minute that these peace terms would be unacceptable not only to a monarchical Germany, but also to a republican Germany, and not only to Germany, but also to the capitalistic governments of England and France.

"And in that case we would be compelled to wage a revolutionary war against the German Bourgeoisie, but not only against the German Bourgeoisie, and we would take up that fight.

"We are not pacifists, we are against Imperialistic wars waged by capitalists for profit. But we always did consider it nonsense that the proletariat should reject revolutionary wars, which may be necessary in the interests of Socialism."

Lenin realizes that this task would be a stupendous one and would mean a series of class fights all over the world, but he points out that it is not our impatience, our desire to confront this issue, but the objective concrete conditions resulting from the world war that put before us this dilemma: either to sacrifice more millions of men in the destruction of European civilization, or to conquer the governments of all civilized countries for the Socialist Revolution.

"Historic conditions have made the Russians, perhaps for a short period, the leaders of the revolutionary world proletariat, but Socialism cannot now prevail in Russia. We can expect only an agrarian revolution, which will help to create more favorable conditions for further development of the proletarian forces, and may result in measures for the control of production and distribution.

"The main result of the present Revolution will have to be the creation of more favorable conditions for further revolutionary development, and to influence the more highly-developed European countries into action."

When in November, 1914, the Russian Party demanded: "Transformation of the imperialistic war into a civil war of the oppressed against the oppressors, and for Socialism," this demand was considered ridiculous by Social Patriots, as well as by those who constitute the "Center." Nowadays even a blind man can see that this demand was correct.

"The changing of the imperialistic war into a civil war has already started. Good luck to the proletarian Revolution in Europe!"

This letter, of which we publish the most essential parts, was written in accordance with instructions of a group of members of the Russian Social Democratic Party, traveling with Lenin from Switzerland to Petrograd, and was adopted at a meeting on April 8, 1917.

## The International Movement

SPECIAL convention of the Swiss Socialist Party affirmed its adherence to the principles of Zimmerwald and Kienthal. It decided in favor of a New International, excluding the Social Patriots. A resolution to arrange mass-meetings of munition workers, to discuss the possibility of a strike in munition, factories in co-operation with comrades in other countries, was lost with 86 against 113 votes. A resolution condemning the "defense of the fatherland" as against the principles of International Socialism, was passed by 222 against 77 votes. Platten spoke in favor, Muller and Greulich against the motion.

THE labor conference in Leeds (England) showed a remarkable change in the minds of the English workers under the influence of the Russian Revolution. Not only was the general opinion in favor of immediate peace on the conditions of the Russian Council of Soldiers and Workmen, but a growing opposition against the English Government was evident. Robert Smillie, speaking in favor of one of the resolutions, mentioned the English Government as "our" provisional government, and it was cknowledged that Ireland and Egypt should also have a right to decide their own destiny. A suggestion to ask indemnities from Germany for families of submarined sailors was shouted down with the remarks: "Let the ship owners pay for their victims," and "our enemies are the English ship owners, not the German sailors."

RAKOWSKY, the Rumanian Socialist who was liberated from prison by a mass-demonstration in Jassy, in which 15,000 soldiers participated, has been welcomed at a meeting of the Russian Council of Soldiers and Workmen. Rakowsky denounced the demands for annexations of the majority of the Socialist Party in Bulgaria, and favors the establishment of a federative Republic of Balkan peoples, as advocation by the minority Socialists in Bulgaria as well as by the Socialist Parties in Serbia, Rumania and Greece.

THE Americans are certainly not losing sight of their business interests, and their Allies may find out some day that their new associate has the best part of the bargain. Think of the millions and millions which France and England have loaned to Russia, practically without ecurity, even without gaining a solid foothold in the economic system of the Empire of the Czar. Comes the United States in the game with a few millions and takes hold of the mines and other concessions! They evidently want to try out their methods of Ludlow, Butte and the Mesaba range in Russia, but it is doubtful whether the Soldiers and Workmen will accept this new form of democracy, even at the hands of Charles Edward Russell.

Our intrepid Comrades Liebknecht and Friedrich Adler have been elected honorary members of the Council of Soldiers and Workmen. We may expect that the liberation of their honorary members, as well as of other victims of the opposition against Imperialism in different countries, will be made a peace term of the Russian Council. The Left Wing Group with Lenin, as well as the Left Wing Socialists in Holland, have already made this demand a condition for participating in any International Socialist Congress.

THE Left Wing group of Socialists in France, of which Lorriot is the best known representative and which endorses the resolutions adopted at Zimmerwald, decided at a conference that Alsace-Lorrain should not be in the way of a general peace. They accept the "no annexations" in the sense as proclaimed by the Russian Council of Soldiers and Workmen.

A committee has been formed in England on the initiative of the Independent Labor Party and the British Socialist Party, to work for a speedy peace on the basis of Zimmerwald. Labor unions will be represented and Ramsay Macdonald has been elected Secretary.

Some of the Russian social democratic papers in France have been suppressed, evidently to make the world safe for democracy.

# Published Every Two Weeks by

THE SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA LEAGUE J. F. MULLEN, Secretary

61 Woodrow Avenue, Dorchester, Mass.

LOUIS C. FRAINA S. FREIMAN.
J. C. ROVITCH A. S. EDWARDS S. J. RUTGERS

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#### The Russian Offensive

As a military factor, the new Russian offensive is as yet of slight importance; as a political factor, it buiks large. The American press, naturally, is interpreting its political significance in a reactionary sense. The offensive is seen as the end of "anarchy" in Russia and as a victory of the pro-war Imperialistic faction. Kerensky is hailed as the savior of Russia. But while Kerensky struts through the pages of the press as a man of miraculously heroic proportions, the revolutionary forces are silently but firmly solidifying their power. An executive committee of three hundred delegates representing the Councils of Soldiers and Workmen throughout Russia, has been organized with Tscheidse at its head. The Duma refused to dissolve itself, but nobody pays any attention to it; the newly organized executive committee, dominated by Socialists, is the real government of Russia. And only a few weeks before the offensive started. the All-Russia Congress of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates adopted a resolution which characterized the present war as "the consequence of aspirations of; Imperialists, prevailing among the ruling classes of all countries," and recognizing "that the struggle for the more rapid ending of the war constitutes the most pressing problem for the revolutionary democracy-a problem imposed as much by the interests of the revolution as by the aspirations of the workers of al countries." The new offensive simply shows that the revolutionary democracy is willing to fight for its ends. The New York Tribune recognizes that either Russia or the United States will dominate the peace conference-and by all means the dominating factor should not be the Imperialistic United States. Revolutionary Russia waging a revolutionary war will immensely strengthen its influence and purposes, and determine the terms of peace in the measure that it bulks large itself and is backed up by the revolutionary proletariat in all the belligerent nations.

#### The Stockholm Conference

THE Russian Council of Soldiers and Workmen has asked the American gov-ernment to allow the delegates of the Socialist Party to participate in the Stockholm Conference. The great democracy of America now stands in the unenviable position of being the only belligerent government that prohibits its Socialists participating in the conference. It is in this way that our government is making the world safe for democracy! The attitude of President Wilson again proves that this country is a reactionary factor in the situation, and not a progressive one as many a radical romantically believes. But the pressure of world events may compel our government to lift the ban. It therefore becomes necessary that the National Office of the Socialist Party issue a call for the election of delegates to the Conference. The City Convention of the Socialist Party of Greater New York has adopted a resolution to this effect. The National Office should act immediately. The selection of Victor Berger. Algernon Lee and Morris Hillquit by the N. E. C. dominated by Hillquit and Berger, was a disregard of party democracy. If there is no time for a referendum, then the National Committee ld elect the delegates. This would ovide at least a measure of democracy.

Every local of the party should take immediate action to make the National Office act in this emergency.

#### The Disgrace of Meyer London

A CONFERENCE of trades unions in New York City passed a resolution calling upon Meyer London to introduce a bill in Congress for the repeal of the Conscription Law. The City Convention of Greater New York, Socialist Party, passed a similar resolution. The behavior of London is disgraceful. Imagine a Socialist having to be asked to do his duty, and still failing to perform it! Instead of it being the Socialist London to lift his voice in Congress against Conscription after it became a law, it was a bourgeois Congressman that did it. The war provided a magnificent opportunity for Meyer London in Congress, an opportunity to use a national forum for aggressive Socialist propaganda. But he egregiously muffed the opportunity. Speak privately with members of the party bureaucracy in New York, and they will admit the disgraceful attitude of London. But they do not utter one single word of public criticism, nor do they take action to discipline him. How long shall the Socialist Party, particularly in view of the adoption of the Majority Report by an overwhelming vote of the membership, tolerate the contemptible misrepresentation of its attitude in Congress?

#### Patriots and Profiteers

PRESIDENT Wilson has read a lecture to the business interests of the country. It is a really magnificent lecture. With his usual trenchancy, he tears to shred the patriotic claims of our profiteers who are using patriotic endeavors to increase their profits. The President tells them they are entitled to "just prices," but that they shouldn't ask for them on 'patriotic" grounds. Profits and patriotism have nothing to do with each other." The President says in so many words that the business interests are aitempting to hold up the country, and cites the shipping interests as a particularly revolting example. Which is all very excellent. But the business interests needn't fear words they remember the old adage about sticks and stones may break one's bones, but names will never burt them. Business will keep on piling profits upon profits, although here and there particular business interests may suffer so that business as a whole may profit. The President having made a magnificent gesture to arouse the idealism of public opinion, business may now proceed to spoliate suffering humanity without any qualms of conscience.

#### The Berkman-Goldman Case

THE inevitable always happens. It I was inevitable that Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman should receive the limit of the law, and they did receive the limit in the most outrageque way-two years each in the Federal penitentiary, \$10,000 fine each and a threat of deportation upon their release.

Their conviction was inevitable because the government wanted to make an example of them. Proceeding on the foolish assumption that if these agitators were imprisoned, the movement as which they played a magnificent part would collapse, the government acted accordingly. It took the jury thirty-six minutes to render a verdict.

The actions of the prosecution in this case have been peculiarly malignant and repulsive: A monstrously excessive bail of \$25,000 each was imposed upon the defendants, as a punitive measure and to make them suffer in jail. After their conviction, Judge Mayer denied them a few days during which to arrange their affairs-again as a punitive measure. But the most vicious act of all was seizing \$20,000 of the bail money to pay the defendants' fines in case it was found that their money was included in the money provided for bail! The Judge and the Federal attorney knew very well that the idea is preposterous. What is their purpose, then? It is to secure the names of the persons that provided the money for bail, so as to terrorize them and others from putting up money to bail out agitators in the future. Con-

The activity of Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman during the past three months has been the finest of their twenty years' participation in the radical movement, They knew what was coming, but they did not quail. They would be the first to spurn our sympathy, and we shall offer none. The revolutionist needs no sympathy. But they do have our admiration, and they have deserved it in

It is futile to denounce the action of the government. It is worse than futile to indulge in lampoon and lamentation. Courageous action against the reaction is the only fitting answer toe can make.

The ruling class is much mistaken if they imagine they can terrorize the opporsition. We are in the fight to stay. The issues at stake are too great, our action is too important for the future of fundamental democracy, for us to quail or to cease our activity.

The fight goes on. It may have ceased temporarily in New York, but the organizing and preparations go on. In the meanwhile, the fight breaks out in the West and Northwest.

Do your worst, gentlemen of the reaction. Fill the jails, and when they are full, build new ones. Crushed in one form, the revolutionary movement simply assumes a new form, and its activity goes on in spite of all. Our tight is not the fight of a day, but of ages. Yours is a victory out of which arises

#### Conscientious Objectors

THE test of the Conscientions Ob-L jector is coming. The Conscription Law provides exemption only for conscientious Objectors affiliated with a recognized religious creed which does not believe in the taking of human life. Part thousands upon thousands of registrants claimed exemption as Conscientions Objectors who are not affiliated with any creed. The government has not amounced its policy toward this class.

It is an absurdity to consider concience as simply an attribute of the reigious. Surely the world has progressed sufficiently to recognize the obvious fact that religion and conscience do not necessarily depend each upon the other Many a smug religious devotee is an unmitigated scamp possessed of neither conscience nor principles. Conscience is a human instinct, and is no more an integral part of religion than are morals.

But the absurdity is still greater. Quakers are automatically exempt under the law. A particular Quaker may have been born into his religion, possess really no conscientious scruples against war, and still be exempt. But here is a Socialist who has been fighting militarism and war even before the great catastrophe, whose whole life is devoted to social service: is he to be refused exemption simply because he is not affiliated with any religious creed?

This attitude would penalize social service and ideals and promote the barren religion of a creed. The Quakers are essentially selfish; they are not a proselyting sect, they do not burn with he fire of the reformer. Their's is a passive creed: let the heathen perish, we have the truth and shall live in the truth. The Socialist and the non-Socialist Conscientious Objector, on the contrary, is an eminently social being, whose opposition to war is not based simply on the dictates of his conscience but on the broad general interests of humanity. These are the real Conscientious Objectors because their objections are acquired, not inherited; because their principles are universal principles with which they seek to emancipate the world.

Decide what the government may, the non-religious Conscientions Objector is determined to refuse military service. Threats cannot terrify nor deter him. He will abide by the decision he has

And this decision is all the more unalterable because the non-religious Conscientious Objector is animated primarily by social motives. The fact that involved in his conscientious objections is a great, international social principle upon which depends the future of the world will give him greater strength and courage to resist and refuse being drafted into the army.

Nor will the real Conscientious Objector accept alternative service. The acceptance of this service would immediately brand his objections as hypocrisy. The motives of these Conscientions Objectors are social, and not simply individual; they are not against their individual participation in war, but against war in itself, because of the purposes that war promotes. Alternative service is a vital measure of war; indeed, under the conditions to-day, alternative service is in a sense much more important than actual military service at the front. The Conscientious Objector it not a coward; in making his protest against the war, he is determined to see it through. There can be no compromise.

#### The Negro and Unionism

THE East St. Louis outrage, in which scores of Negroes were brutally killed and their homes burned, is an inident that cannot be dismissed with the tereotyped phrases damning Capitalsm for its iniquity.

The responsibility of Capitalism is dain, the economic factors obvious. But there is a responsibility of Organized Labor involved, a heavy responsibility that cannot be shirked,

The day after the outrage, the secretary of the local Federation of Labor ssued a statement condoning the acions of the murderous mob. President iompers has condoned the part played by Organized Labor in the outrage on he plea that the employers are responible because they imported Negro labor from the south. In so many words, the justification is that the Negroes were taking the jobs of the whites, and accordingly deserved being killed. This is a dastardly plea.

White men who take the jobs of strikers are not massacred by the strikers. They may be intimidated, they may be assaulted, which under certain conditions may be justifiable action; but they are not massacred and their homes destroyed. The A. F. of L. cannot plead that the Negro is a scab, because the A. F. of L. refuses to organize the Negro. The trades unions are "job trusts" which through various methods exclude the bulk of the workers from membership. Their animating purpose is to provide the members with jobs. By excluding the mass of the workers, the unions of the A. F. of L. encourage

Instead of organizing the Negro and jointly fighting the employers, the unionists of East St. Louis expressed a ferocious spirit of race hatred and thereby made proletarian solidarity a still more remote thing of the future.

No one denies the shar of Organized abor in the outrage-the friends of the A. F. of L. simply justify it in a variety

· And worse of all, we find the Socialist Party, which should be the moral and intellectual advance guard of the Working Class, compromising on the issue, remaining silent, or extenuating the whole affair by a discussion of its "ecoomic causes.'

At the recent City Convention of the Socialist . Party of Greater New York, a resolution was introduced on the East St. Louis outrage that indicated the responsibility of Organized Labor. The resolution was rejected, and a compromise resolution adopted:

We express our unutterable horror the outrages committed upon the Negroes in East St. Louis on July 1 and 2, and we demand that he perpetrators of these fiendish deeds, as well as the local authorities who failed to give the Negroes sufficient protection, be prosecuted and punished."

A characteristic declaration-sound and fury, signifying nothing!

The New York Call admits that the outrage is the consequence of "a fierce and intense fight for jobs," its solution being "to remove the economic cruses."

Must the Negro wait for the Cooperative Commonwealth before he can secure at least a measure of justice? It is a stupid and reactionary attitude. It plays right into the hands of Capitalism by dividing the working class along racial lines. Moreover, it is going to keep the Negro away from Socialism by making him strive to improve his conditions as a Negro, instead of as a

The Negro constitutes a large proportion of the proletariat of America. The industrial transformation that is now convulsing this country is making the Negro migrate north and enter industrial pursuits in large contingents. These are facts that cannot be waved aside with dogmatic phrases. They must be faced and settled intelligently. Either the union movement organizes the Negro as a fellow-worker, or the capitalist is going to pit Negro against white to the destruction of both.

The unions must be free to all workers, they should seek to organize all the workers. The policy of the "job trust" inevitably produces disaster, particularly in the new era of Capitalism and its greater efficiency. And if the A. F. of L. refuses to organize the Negro, the unskilled and the unorganized generally, then it becomes a prime task of the Socialist Party-if it is Socialist and revolutionary-to drive the unions to action and use all its power to make good the deficiency of the A. F. of L.

#### Russia, Germany, America

BY ANTON PANNEKOEK

LMOST three years the war has con-A timied, three years of immense sufferings and unbearable pressure, without practically any resistance of the masses. It would seem strange, after the world opposition against lesser pressure before the war, that now we should all of a sudden have this silent inactive obedience and resignation of the proletariat to hunger, suffering and destruction. And yet it is not strange to those who see that the class struggle is at the bottom of Imperialism, and know that the classstruggle is decided by the power of the classes. The outbreak of the war and the refusal to fight it, the surrender of the leaders to the bourgeoisie, was all an immense defeat of the proletariat. Class relations were at once changed to the disadvantage of the workers. The possibility of a class fight was cut off; the proletarian masses stood without an ideal, without light, without hope. Socialism, upon which they had been relying, the star of their lives, proved to be either a compromise with bourgeois politicians for jobs or a phrase without meaning.

The proletariat passed through the dark night of the first years of the war, stifled by its unbearable misery and increasing sacrifices. But gradually a new uprising arose, not as a return from a temporary error to the old ideals, but as a new instinctive practice, against all traditions, against old theories, as a spontaneous act of self-preservation against destructive misery—the first beginning of a new Socialist struggle.

The Russian Revolution is the first great revolutionary movement of the people, born of the world war. That is the reason why its character is least simple. It is not a clear-cut proletarian revolution, but a movement of the people, in which different class movements and oppositions meet together, partly in cooperation, partly opposing one another. Because Russia is least advanced for a Social Revolution, it was first ripe for a revolt of the people resulting from the misery of the war. Because the government was not sufficiently capitalistic, because it could not develop all the capitalist energy nor organize all the powers of the nation in the service of Imperialism, because it was not fully the representative of the aggressive policy of the bourgeoisie, therefore it was not strong enough and had to give way first. In other countries the government has organized the hunger, declared Henriette Roland-Holst, after the Revolution in Petrograd, in Russia the government of the Czar was not capable enough to organize hunger, and unorganized hunger dethroned Czarism. People can endure living a year on hunger rations, but three days withut any ration at all meant revolt

Added to this, as a second factor, comes the ight which the Russian Social Democrats (of the group Lenin, who was most influential in Petrograd) have fought incessantly during the war against the war. This fact again shows the lower degree of development in Russia, where Socialism had not yet secured standing as a Party which had something to Again and again during the last year strikes broke out in the munitions industry, the fighting spirit prevailed, and that was why a spontaneous hunger revolt could develop into an organized revolutionary movement.

As a third factor comes the opposition of the Bourgeoisie. We should not over-estimate this force, the real work being done by the workers. The Cadets and Octobrists looked out of the window, as it was expressed by an English correspondent, they watched Cossacks and police beating up the workers, and expected the government to maintain itself; but when it turned out differently and the revolt proved successful, they came upon the streets and headed the Revolution. Nevertheless, the attitude of the Bourgeoisie has had a great influence on the Revolution. It has long been known, that they were strongly opposed to the Czar, because of his inclination towards a peace with Germany; and with the support of the Governments of the Entente powers, they intended to proclaim a Grand Duke in the place of Nicolas at the first favorable opportunity. The bourgeoisie did not do anything to support the Government, and the workers therefore did not find any strong power in their way.

For this reason the situation in Russia can

be compared to some extent with the one in France after the February Revolution of 1848. As was the case then, two classes, Bourgeoisie and Proletariat, stand opposed to each other. made the Revolution and reigned together. Not only in principle, but also in the most actual practical issues: the Bourgeoisie is in favor of the imperialistic war, the Proletariat wishes peace. And between both is another class, formerly in Paris the armed small bourgeois, the national guard, now in Russia the armed peasants, the soldiers-the factors that decide which side they finally will join, and determine the further developments of the Revolution. But between Russia of 1917 and France of 1848 is this great difference, that at that time the class antagonism had to be discovered, to the surprise of both classes, whereas now from the very start the Proletariat, at least the best among them, understand that the government represents another hostile class. Moreover, there is this difference, that the war situation compels the bourgeoisie to avoid by all means a civil war, ugh this offers at the same time the possibility of using nationalistic phrases to fool the less conscious part of the proletariat in betraying the class struggle. The defensive war is the slogan which the Russian Bourgeoisie uses in controlling large masses of workers and soldiers—a slogan sufficiently elastic to allow all kinds of interpretati

peace-and therefore fits very well in a time of transition in which the political aims of the classes have still to crystallize.

The further development of the Russian Revolution will depend in the last instance upon whether the Revolution spreads over the rest of Europe.

The Russian Bourgeoisie meets with still more problems. It promised to the Poles complete autonomy in the name of democracy and as a necessary measure in view of the German occupation. But Poland is not the only foreign nationality in the Russian Empire. The Ukrainians have raised their voice and claim the whole territory from Ural to the Black Sea-and their intention to hold a national congress will perhaps force the Provisional Government to call the constitutional assembly for the whole Empire earlier than it intended. How will the Russian Bourgeoisie maintain the unity of the Empire against the tendency to split up into different nationalities? It is confronted with the opposing ideals of the bourgeois democracy of the earlier period of growing capitalism: national autonomy, and the demand of Imperialism: strong centralization and world empire. The opposition is not irreconcilable, in many countries the problem being solved by putting democracy in the service of Imperialism, accepting the form without the spiritual content.

No matter how this develops, whether into the confusion of internal struggles of the different nationalities, or into the form of a federation of nations, undoubtedly the Russian development will greatly influence as a disintegrating factor the unity of the monarchy of Austria-Hungary.

The general interest is now concentrated upon Germany. The last autocracy in Europe, the last remnant of the despotism of the Middle Ages in the midst of free peoplessuch are not only the words of the "idealist" Wilson in his declaration of war, but a great part of the democratic Socialist press of the neutral countries express the hope and expectation that the German workers will follow the Russian example.

New, it certainly is true that the first example of a mass-movement, able to overthrow one of the warring governments, goes far towards taking away the feeling of powerlessness in the Proletariat; the spell which for many years obsessed their minds has been broken. But in these expectations we overlook the big difference that may be briefly expressed as follows: The Russian Revolution is a Bourgeois revolution; the German would be a Proletarian revolution. In Russia the \* Czar has been overthrown because he could not fulfill the Imperialistic requirements; in Germany, the Bourgeoisie is united behind the government and the dynasty, which during half a century has been the purest representative of the interests of Big Capital. In Germany the Proletariat stands alone against the united power of Bourgeoisie, landed property. and government, against a unified ruling class That is why a German Revolution when it breaks loose will have a much deeper meaning and wider results than the Russian Revolution could have. This circumstance explains its immense difficulty and its long delay. It is not a question of overthrowing the yoke of a crazy despot, as is claimed by English and American gentlemen in a naive combination of stupidity and hypocrisy: in involves the fight against all the powers of capital. Precisely for this reason we should not hope too much for a German revolution. Moreferent experience during the war than the Russian Proletariat: kept from fighting by its leaders and its Party-the Scheidemanns, aswell as the group Haase-Ledebour-Kautskya fighting spirit can only develop when it liberates itself spiritually from the Social Democracy, (from both parties, the old and the new). And while in Russia most of the workers were employed in the factories and the peasants at the battlefield, in Germany the mass of young and strong workers is on the firing line, and are replaced by women in the factories and cities.

And yet, in spite of all unfavorable circum stances, something is smouldering in Ger many. The terrible sufferings, the military disappointments, and especially hunger, the perpetual craving hunger of the half-satisfied which does not enrage quickly, but exhausts the children to starvation-these finally will exceed the limits of patience.

Here and there people have resisted, hardly controlled by the leaders who organized i Berlin an orderly and legal "protest strike." We may expect hunger revolts of the masses in these and the coming months almost with mathematical certainty, and under the present circumstances, now that Germany is losing constantly on the Western front, these hunger revolts may perhaps grow into a revolutionary movement of the people.

Never was the chance of a revolution in Germany so great as it is in the immediate

We may yet, accordingly, expect a Prole tarian, a Socialist revolution. We have emphasized above very strongly the difference. between Russia and Germany; we now must point out that the difference should not be considered too absolute. If conditions once develop so far that the revolt is spreading more and more, that the police is powerless, that soldiers fraternize with the people (all still quite different things than in Russia) and turn their weapons upon the governmentthen just the same as in Russia-the bourgeoisie will head the Revolution. There are enough unemployed politicians with demo-eratic color, 'Fortschrittler" and Social Democrats, to lead a Revolution against Absolut ism, against the Junkers, in favor of liberalist and Socialism. They will try to limit the Revolution to a mere political democratic Refor Capitalism. German Capitalism the absolutistic militaristic rule of the Junkers, but Capitalian can also get along differently. If it has to be, if the need is really pressing it can get slong with any kind of gover-

#### Russia, Germany, America

(Continued from Preceding Page)

becomes a useless tool. If the people break down the power of Kaiser and Junkers, more efficiently than in 1848, so that it is broken forever, then capital will accept conditions, somer than leave the power to the Proletariat. It will not do this whole-heartedly, because by doing so it has to give up many schemes for imperialistic conquest, but it will prefer to keep what it still has, and save what it can, than lose everything. Then it will also get peace: for the English Bourgeone will then be tild of the fear of its aggressive competitor.

Of course, the German Revolution thereby will not have been emled, but just started. How the class-struggle would develop under those circumstances, and how this would react upon other countries, upon the general policy and upon World Imperialism, we cannot very well guess. We are at the beginning of a period of such far reaching, revolutionizing world events, that every example in modern world history fails as a comparison.

111.

At the same time that in Europe "the hand appeared on the wall" writing its warning in sody letters. America plunges into the world war as a tresh power. Wilson, the pacifistnever has Pacifism blamed and exposed itself to such an extent-appeals to his people for a war for liberty and against barbarism. When England three years earlier started the strugsle for liberty, for democracy, for culture, against Imperialistic violence, we stigmatized this as hypocrisy; but there was at least some reason for these leantiful phrases, in so far as in England Rourgeois culture and personal iberty were more de cloped than in Germany. But America the country in which during elections the most unscrupulous corruption prevails, where during strikes the workers are regularly shot down by armed thugs, where in each conflict between capital and labor the most unlawful acts of violence remain unpunished, where labor leaders are kidnapped, condemned and imprisoned on admittedly false testimony of notorious criminals, where the nnemployed are imprisoned and maltreated with refined cruelty, where personal liberty and legal security are respected less than in any other country in the world, except in Russia before the Revolution, the country in comparison with which even Prussian police domination is a model of strict impartiality and humanity-America as the champion of cul-

Seemingly there is no advantage to result from this war. The American capitalists supplied at high prices enormous quantities of war material to the Entente; billions of profits have been made thereby: now they will have to send similar war material to the firing line in France without getting pay from England and France. It is true that to the manufacturers it is all the same whether they are paid by England or by their own government; and they might possibly fear now that England and France have readjusted their own war industries, this might result in reducing the orders to such an extent that they need a have loaned money to the Entente and they were becoming the bankers of the world instead of impoverished England; now they can loan money to their own country. Considered from the standpoint of narrow money interests, the participation of America in the war seems a failure, a concession to passion and hatred to the disadvantage of the country at large: enormous expenditures and increasing debts to a country which up until now did nothing but gather war profits.

But Imperialism is not moved by petty narrow greed; it is the profit-lust raised to the height of energetic world politics. To reach its great aims, it has to risk large expenditures and sacrifices; Imperialistic policy cannot be narrow. Not the immediate profits, but the general Imperialistic policy has decided the attitude of America. The special war situation compelled it to interfere. Although Germany had been repulsed into the defensive, its submarine war commenced to bring strong pressure upon England. America is financially too much interested in a victory of the Allies, to inactively permit a peace without a victory.

But there is more. As a result of the general exhaustion of Europe, America will become the leading capitalist country in the world; therefore it wants to have a voice in the future of Europe-the Monroe Doctrine has turned into its counterpart. In the future world events of the capitalist world it wants to be a decisive factor of power: at present in Europe, to-morrow in Asia, where a big struggle is awaiting decision. For that struggle America is not prepared in a military sense: against the Japanese army it could not put adequate troops in the field. This is known to the American rulers; but they also know how difficult it is to prepare arrangements which greatly affect the most sacred traditions of the country. England was able to introduce general military service gradually during a period of two years; it could gradually accustom its citizens to that course, be of the sea. America is not in such a position; it needs at once a big army. And it can only is absolutely not dangerous. The opportunity was now favorable to exploit the indignation out German barbarity and atrocities; and hasty introduction of a law for compulsory ry service by Wilson shows what mey are after. Conscription is a necessity not for this war, but for future wars. America's de-claration of war serves only as a psychological factor to prepare for the future struggle for world doubtion.

A new period emerges for the American labor movement. America enters the Arena of the world revolution.

## THE PLACE OF THE SKULL

By MILUTIN KRUNICH
Lieutenant in the Serbian Army

DARKNESS came on rapidly. The old cemetery under the lindens was entirely dark, but around it was still twilight. In the valley the white mist was lying; from the valley rose a sullen confused noise. The boom of the artillery across the river had ceased. An icy wind began to blow. In the sky the first stars glimmered, and the moon rose beyond the hill-across the river, big. murky, blood-colored.

"Cheda, take care that the soldiers are through soon, and I will go to the other trench to see how much they have done."

When I got there the men were in the

trenches. They had finished. The sergeant came to me.

"We are through, sir."

"Deep enough? The loopholes strong enough? Very well. You will send two soldiers who will hold the connection between the trenches."

rest. Why did you not find my heart to di up rather than his grave? Why did you no first kill me? Jaoj, jaoj! All destroyed! Have you removed his coffin, have you take him out, have you opened those terrible.

"Mirko, I have nothing to say to you. You alone know what is your duty. I think we will have a terrible battle to-morrow, but you are an old soldier and you will know how to hold your men. One thing is certain: we must stay here until the last moment."

"I know it, sir. Where should we go from here? This is our place—the cemetery!" said the sergeant quietly, as if he were speaking of his fields.

I laid my hand on his shoulder.

"I know you are a brave man. We shall trust in God!"

Slowly I returned to the other position. The soldiers were in the trenches. They were quietly talking to each other, and one could see the glimmer of cigarettes. Bayonets protruded here and there from the deep trenches and glistened in the moonlight. Cheda was sitting near, his head sunk between his shoulders, his shikatcha drawn over his ears.

."The machine-guns have come:" I asked

"Have you put them as I said—two at the right side of the trenches, and one at the left?"

"Yes, sir. What do you think of to-mor-row?"

"If they have enough artillery, it will be bad. But if they do not, then we will kill them as the hail kills field-mice!"

"I think so too, sir."

"Where is Bora?" I asked him after a while."
"There he is in the trench, sitting on the

"What?"
"Sitting on the coffin, dreaming as usual.
The soldier was right in saying the coffin to

The wind began to blow more strongly. It was very cold.

"Let's go down, Cheda; it will be warmer there. To-morrow you will be at the left wing of the trench. Bora and I will stay at the right, but to-night we can be together."

Then we went down into the trench, into the cold, wet, nauscating graves. Some of the soldiers were sitting in the trench; otherwere lying on the wet ground, sleeping; otherwere standing with their heads leaning against the wall of the trench, their guns between their feet and held against their breasts. Standing thus, they were sleeping with open mouths. Their only rest for the whole night! How terribly pale their faces, and how ghastly in the moonlight! How like the faces, of the dead!"

We found Bora sitting on a cofin, but he got up when we came.

"What! are you sitting on a corpse?" sai!

"I tell you it does not feel, and the heart in my breast does not feel," answered Bora very seriously.

I sat down on the coffin, trying to be califi, but I felt a cold shudder run from my feet up my back and stiffen my neck. I tried to throw off my thoughts. I tried to calm myself. But my thoughts ran on. I was never wider awake. I thought: "I am sitting in a grave upon a corpse! I do not remember that I ever read or heard of anything like this. Can it be true? Can it be reality? Perhaps I am sick and this whole day is only the hallucination of a fever." But a gust swept in on us from the valley the distant sound of screams of pain, cries, and curses, which told me that

Suddenly Bora clutched my hand. I turned round to him. The moonlight shone in his face, which was pale and haggard. His lips were quivering, his hand was outstretched, pointing to something beyond the trench. I saw that he wished to tell me something, but he could not; the words stuck in his throat.

"For Heaven's sake, what is the matter with you, Bora? Why are you so frightened?"
"What aile him again?" said Cheda who

"What ails him again?" said Cheda, who was sitting beside me with his head between his knees.

"Do you believe in ghosts?" said Bora, whispering and shivering. "What?"

"In ghosts, in spirits?"
"Certainly a soldier is passing through the cemetery," said Cheda.

"No! no, I am not crazy. Please get up and look," said Bora, pulling me to my feet.

At the same time the soldiers began to wake, to whisper, to get up. I looked out of the trench. A black shadow! It was moving round the old cemetery; from time to time it appeared in the moonlight which filtered through the lindens. It seemed to me to be very large. The soldiers became more rest-

"Be silent!" I cried to them.

Now the shadow emerged from the old cometery. It was entirely in the moonlight.

I naw it was a woman. She moved very

onickly. She bent often, as though looking for something. Once in a while she would straighten herself, and we could hear her moan. As she came quite close to us we could hear her speaking to herself: 'There is the grave of Mara,—there of friend Para, here of Caya, and here must be his!". All of a sudden she screamed (oh, a terrible scream!) and fell upon what was left of the new grave of the soldier.

"It is dug up,—it is broken down, destroy ed!" exclaimed the poor creature, writhing with grief, stretching her arms over the mound: "Why have you dug up his grave! He gave his young life for his country, but it is not yet enough; now he cannot have he rest. Why did you not find my heart to did up rather than his grave? Why did you not first kill me? Jaoj. jaoj! All destroyed! Have you removed his coffin, have you take him out, have you opened those terrible wounds on his dead body? Have you—?"

And not knowing what she was doing, she stumbled into the trench. We caught her anout her down wear the coffin

put her down near the coffin.
"Here is the coffin," said Cheda, almost in

She kneeled on the ground and quickly feltover the coffin with her hands, whispering many times, "Here it is, here it is!" Then she shrieked again, fell on the coffin and began to embrace and kiss it, trembling in her whole body. Never in my life had I heard succeres. Soon they grew less and less and die away in a shuddering moan. Suddenly she weakened, her arms slipped to the ground, anshe fell, her head striking on the coffin.

Bora drew in his breath with a sharp hissing sound. "Dead!" he whispered.

Cheda ran to the woman first and raised he. Her shawl fell from her head and we could see her gray silvery hair. On her forehead was a great red bruise. Her eyes were closed. "She breathes," said Cheda: 'give her water."

I took a canteen and bathed her foreheal and temples.

The soldiers crowded round us. I coulhear them whispering, "That's a mother' "Poor woman!" "Poor mothers—all of ours!" I mally the woman moved, and opened her

I mally the woman moved, and opened hereyes. Oh, dear mother's eyes, how red and swollen they were! For a long time shooked round her; and then, as consciousnes returned, she again put her arms around the coffin, placed her had upon it, and whispered in the faintest of voices, "My son, my deal son, my tender child! Did they hurt you?"

"Is that your son?" asked Bora.

Yes, my son, my only one. He was my hope, my happiness, my life. When I lost him I could not live myself. I did not love the sun, I had his eyes; I did not admire the flowers or smell them, I had his rosy cheeks and his hair; I did not love the sky, I had his forehead; I did not love the sky, I had his forehead; I did not love the honey or sweetness of life, I listened to his voice; I did not care for the whole world, I had his gentle hands and his heart of gold! Oh, I had him, my only one, and that is all. He was my life. I loved him so much that now I cannot love sun, flowers, sky, world, life. All these were in him. I cannot, I cannot?" cried the poor mother in superhuman grief; and legan to weep again.

It was more than terrible! It was inconceivable! The soldiers all left their places and gathered round us, round this poor mother. Cheda rose and motioned to them to go away. They went slowly back to their places. For a time I heard them talk and whisper, but soon they grew silent; only the mother still wept. Presently she rose, took my hand, and in a frightened voice, said,—

"Will you destroy his grave entirely? Will you really take him out that the dogs may eat him? Oh, no, no! I will not permit it. I ambere to defend you, my dear little heart! cried the poor woman, clasping the offin as if she wanted to take it to her breast and carry it somewhere far away.

Bora knelt beside her, lifted her, embraced finish ther her gently, and said to her tenderly, nearly in tears, — "You se

"No! good mother, we will not take out his coffin. On the contrary, we are here to defend it. We love your son too. He was a soldier, a warrior, a defender; he was our friend."

The mother looked at Bora a few moments, astonished, with wide-open eyes, as if the did not understand him. Then she fook his head in her hands and began to kiss him passionately,—on his hair, on his forchead, his cheeks, eyes, chin,—saying,—

"Oh, I know it. Yes, you are his friend, his comrade. You are a soldier as he was. And you too have a mother, who is now weeping as am, You are all my children. Yes, yes, you are the same as he was, only he is dead, and you, perhaps, will be to-morrow. Oh, my poor children! Have we borne you for this? Have we suffered, we mothers, so much, to lose you when we love you the most? Do not interrupt me. I know what you want to say. Ounative country is calling. We have to defend it, and defending it, we defend you, our mothers; thus we pay our debts. Oh, I know it. I too thought it was so. The day when I parted with him, I did not weep. He said to me, Do not weep, mother; be proud that you have a soldier son. You have kept me and cared for me more than twenty years. Now the time has come when I can defend you, and I will defend you, my good mother. Be hap-

"And he went with a song on his lips, happ;" in his strength and youth. I was proud.

"Right away after, I went to a hospital. I wanted to be truly worthy of my son. I took care of the wounded and kissed them, for it caressing them I thought that I caressed my boy. He wrote to me often. He was happy and content. He always begged me not to

worry too much, for he felt that my love de-

"One day—O God, God! One day, when I came to the hospital, I found another wounded soldier. His head was bandaged and he was lying perfectly still. I went closer to the bed. Sudenly I screamed and fell on the floor; I recognized my son. Oh, I cannot tell you al!!. His face was black, his eyes closed, and around them it was all blue and red. I kissed him, I spoke to him. I called him, I shook him.' Slowly he raised his swollen eyelids, and showed his beautiful eyes from which he would never see any more, and a low painful groan came from his lips. Oh, my poor child! He had lost his sight and speech. Oh, I cannot tell you all.

'One morning I went into the bandageroom when they dressed his wounds. He had no hair; his beautiful hair was shaved entirely off. Around his head was a wide-open gash from which the blood was running. O God, God! When the doctor pressed his head, his ingers sunk into the skin as if there was no bone beneath! Jaoj! He died after a few days. He was never conscious. Oh, how terrible it was! I was insane with grief. H; died in my arms without knowing that these were the hands of his mother which he love! so much and kissed so often. O my children. can you not see how unhappy I am? I am not angry at my native country. I, too, love my country. But when my son has died for it. I too must die. It is not life for a mother without ber children. We mothers are useless for this world without our children. Oh, if it would be nothing; but there are a million mothers who are who are weeping to-day. We will flood the whole world with our tears, with our mourning garment we will darken the sun, and with our sorrows we will poison life. O God! I beg you to kill me! I will not live without him, without my on, my heart, my soul!"

The poor woman ceased speaking, and began to weep sadly. We were silent. The bush of death fell-s

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The night dragged its endless length along. The first streaks of dawn were appearing, when suddenly, over the river, somewhere in the blue mountains, there rang out a shot, then another, a third, a fourth. Then came faint whistles, and again four shots somewhere on the right. The soldiers jumped, leaned on the wall of the trench, and grasped their guns. It was beginning.

The worst moments come at the beginning of the battle. The soldiers are like drunken men in darkness. Nothing is known, and no one will show his position first. But to-day the fighting developed quickly. The Bulgarians, proud of their victories, wished to be "entirely quit with their brothers" at once, and they began to shoot from all points with their artillery, following the German tactics: wipe out first all before you and then march through the cleared place."

for the shower of shells exploded far from us. But it grew serious. It seemed to me as if a muddy, turgid river, a raging flood, was rising up to swamp us. At first the Bulgarians had directed their are only at the valley, wasting their ammunition. Or perhaps they wanted to clear their way through the valley by throwing aside the dead in it. They moved their fire to the pass, and then to the town. Nothing could be more appalling than to hear the hissing of the shells, which, as they flew through the pass like wild horses, lost their clear whistling sound, and became dull heavy thunder that shook the ground. Shortly after, behind us, over the hill back of the old cemetery, rose a thick black smoke.

"They have set the town on fire, the black devils!" said Bora.

"We are their sure victims, but the people in the town might fly, and so they want to inish them first," I said, trembling with anger

"You see now that it is better that I remain here," said the mother with a sad smile.

Suddenly, before we expected, they turned their fire on the hills at both sides of the pass. It seemed to me as if the mouths of many wild beasts had opened and snarled at the same time. And the sound came toward us like a shrill screech, as when the ocean wind blows through the rigging of a lonely ship. At the same moment, the shells exploded with dreadful rapidity everywhere around us. We were deafened by the detonations. Immediately after, the wind blew a thick stinging smoke into the trench, which bit our eyes and suffocated us. And from all directions fell earth and dry leaves.

At the same time a black line rose from the bed of the river. The Bulgarians had crossed the Morava. Perhaps they had crossed last night and were hidden somewhere along the shore of the river. The line seemed endless, and thin as a thread. It moved quickly through the valley. I grasped the telephone: "Hello! Fourth battery!"

It seemed as if a hundred men had spoken at the same time at the telephone.

I cried as loudly as I could, —
"Hello! Fourth battery!"
"Here!" answered a voice.

I continued in the same loud tone, —
"Direction river—forty-five hundred metres.
Try with two cannon with a correction of two
hundred metres."

"Don't worry," answered the same voice.

After a few moments something thundered terribly behind us and whistled over our heads—something which flew through space, rending the air. At the same time something, like a sack full of sand, struck us in our backs, so powerfully that we staggered. Our artillery had begun to fire. I took my field glasses

and looked into the valley. Two little white puffs of smoke showed there—one of them just over the black line.

Again I took the telephone, -

"Fourth!"

"Correction excellent! Now to the right and the left from this point!"

It looked as though the gate of hell had opened wide behind us. The white smoke wreaths appeared with great rapidity over the black line. The ranks swerved, wavered, and broke into many small parts. Some of these parts were lost in the smoke; some were leveled to the ground; all the others ran forward. From the right side of the pass our artillery opened up fire, working confusion in the Bulgar ranks; but the dark line quickly came into the dead angle for our artillery.

Another line rose from the river. It appeared to me that the Bulgarians had directed all their cannon toward our Peaceful Hill, trying to find our battery. The shells struck the old cemetery, working tremendous havoc. The lindens were torn out by the roots and hurled into the air, the large stones of the monuments were cracked in pieces, and reduced to dust. The air was filled with mingled leaves and earth, and everything shook and trembled in that awful destruction.

The second wave of the Bulgar attack met the same fate as the first, but though disordered, broken, and massed in small parts, it made its way across the valley. Suddenly the men of their first line rose from among the bushes, stones, and grass at the foot of our hill. When did they creep up?

Our outposts at the bottom of the hill retreated little by little up, the slope.

"Quick firing! eight hundred metres!" I shouted.

Bora ran along the trench crying the same.

An unspeakable booming and crashing began.

Just then the third black line rose from the river. "Orderly!" I cried, as loudly as I could, turning toward the old cemetery. A soldier, who had been hidden behind a grave not far away, crept toward me like a serpent. He was black with earth and leaves, and streams of dirty sweat ran down his face.

"Go tell the men at the machine-guns that cannot come to give the order to fire."

The soldier crept away.

Presently the machine-guns began firing. The sound was like that of a hundred kiepius being struck at the same moment. The pullets began to fly toward us. They came in millions, literally covering every toot of earth.

Our hre and that of the machine-gunonickly forced the first line back, and held the second one stationary. A swarm of shells flew over our trench. It was like a whiriwind of fire: it was as if the air had become a fluid in which stones, earth, trees, leaves, clothes, guns, boiled and mingled, spiasning from all sides those who were yet alive. We were as in a great kettle of surging norror. Our ears telt as it hot oil had been poured into them; our mouths were dry, open, and full of dirt. Our minds were stunned, Everycrashing, crackling, splitting-indescribable disorder and dreadful horror. Then, above the roar of bombs, rang out heartrending screams, shricks of agony, cails for help, and the groans of the dying.

I ran through the trench encouraging the soldiers. Oh, the unspeakable scenes that I faced!

One of my men lay in the bottom of the trench. His head was a crushed and bloody mass mingled with the earth. The big black fellow who dug up the soldier's grave had stepped upon this dead body without knowing it in his excited shooting; with every movement of his great boots the dark red blood flowed afresh from the crushed body.

A little farther, a soldier raised his left hand from his gun. It was fearfully burned by the red-hot barrel. He looked at his blackand swollen hand, smiled indifferently, grasped his gun again, and began to fire.

Still farther, a soldier was leaning against the wall of the trench, apparently sitting quietly there. When I looked closely, my hair rose, my breath stopped. His eyes were glazed, his mouth open and filled with earth; his breast did not move. Both legs had been entirely shot away and his body remained leaning against the wall like a doll.

Another man was lying on his arm against the trench. He looked as if he were asleep. "Shoot!" I said and shook him.

He fell. He was dead.

The wounded were the most heartrending. There were so many, and they were everywhere! Some were sitting in the trench, whimpering and trying to bind their wounds, from which the blood ran and fell upon their uniforms. Those who were standing stepped on their bodies, but they were past feeling.

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Still the battle raged on and came to its culmination. The air had become close and dark as in a cave, through which ran a fiery river of melted iron in which terrible explosions boomed and thundered.

Those who lived were still firing. In the smoke and confusion they looked like large, black, bloody phantoms. Their faces were distorted, and streams of sweat ran down their cheeks. Their eyes were wide, glittering, and terrible. They were like stones. Did they breathe? I did not know, but they stood and fired.

Stepping over the dead and wounded, crying I know not what, I returned to the old place and looked for the mother. Why had I left her? The thought flashed through my head and I felt something clutch my throat. She had covered the coffin with her shawl and was leaning over it, her face hidden in her

Bora was at the right wing of the trench. When he saw me coming through the smoke and dust he ran toward me. He was, as always in battle, smiling, singing, but very pale. He waved his hands to me, shouting something I could not hear.

Then, suddenly, between him and me something turned white, flashed like lightning, and exploded frightfully, as if the world had split in two. Some thing struck me down, and flew above me. A dazzling light shone before my eyes for an instant, and then darkness.

"It is nothing, sir! A little bruise! Why, it's only a joke!" said the big soldier, lifting me. "But Bora —" he added.

This brought me to my senses, as a dash of icy water.

"Bora!" I cried.

I leaped to my feet and ran down the trench. Through the smoke, dust, and ruin I saw him. There are moments in our lives so horrible, so incomprehensible, so unspeakably terrible, that we have no feelings with which to understand or define them. And yet they are forever before our eyes.

Bora was lying in the arms of the poor mother. A soldier held his head, which was nearly severed from his body. A dreadful wound gaped upon hi neck; his whole body seemed so crushed, so shattered, that only his clothing held it together. The mother was dumb, stiff and rigid as a stone. She scarcely breathed. She fixed a constant staring look upon the wound, as if she could stanch the blood with it. Her face was frightfully changed, all twisted and contorted with horror. Poor, poor mother! What did you think at this moment? What had your suffering mother's heart felt? Oh, if you could tell this to the world, perhaps the world would change, would be different; perhaps it would ... be beautiful!

Bora did not die at once. Oh, the unhappy oy! In him was so much life, virile youth, so much strength and force, that death itself stopped before him. His beautiful eyes were still open but forever dead. His hair was wet with blood. A thin stream of blood ran from his nostrils. His mouth opened to make a path for his beautiful soul.

I howled like a wounded tiger: I jumped, raging as if insane and not knowing what I did. I kicked with all my strength at the earth before the trench. There is no need for any shelter now. Something terrible surged within my breast! It is impossible that they were men who did this. Why then should I be a man?

"Shoot! Kill, kill!" I cried hysterically. Then I seized a gun, but it seemed so little, so small before my rage, pain, desperation, and horror that I threw it away. I wished at that moment that I might have the thunder of Jupiter, with which, in one stroke, I could destroy all the murderers of my friend.

The battle raged on. Truly there was no air! All was changed, destroyed, heated! Those who were alive hardly knew if they were alive. Suddenly, in the midst of this boom and thunder, rose a terrible shouting from the valley, which sounded above everything else for a moment. There are no words or power to describe that sound. One might say that the devils in hell were singing! It was the howl of man when he becomes wild,

enraged—when he yearns to drink hot blood.

In the smoky valley, there were no more black lines, but an immense black mass, which ran toward us like a flood—

"Oorah, ooraaaa-h!" the yells rang out everywhere. So cry men who flesh their bayonets.

A strange sound came to me. For a moment I stood like a stone, then turned quickly. In the same moment the mother let go of Bora and fell. I ran and lifted her. From two places on her head ran blood, red blood on the white hair!

"Mother, mother, are you wounded?"

A happy smile passed over her face. Then, in a weak voice, "I am happy! I knew that I would not be separated from my son for long! Now we will be again together forever. Oh, forever to be with him! Here, I am coming, my little one!" And weakly she embraced the coffin and put her head on it. From her white hair the blood ran on to the

I leaned my head against the wall of the trench and was silent. I do not know if I breathed, I did not feel.

After a short time the mother lifted herself with great pain. Then slowly she unbottoned her dress and put her hand in her bosom. Immediately she drew it out. The hand was covered with blood. Only then I saw that she was shot in the breast too. She lifted her hand and looked at the blood on it for a mo-

I felt my teeth chatter. The mother said, in a wonderfully clear voice, —

"I have given to this world my greatest sacrifice, my only one. But it was not enough. Now I give my blood, my life. Oh! I give them very freely, but only, I beg you, kill each other no more!"

She clasped her bloody hands and the tears fell from her eyes. Suddenly she grew weak. The mother's last task was accomplished! She was no longer useful to this world! With her last effort she raised herself and fell upon the

coffin.

Then I did not understand her words. Not

I understand them very, very well.

Then I saw a terrible picture. Bora was lying at the bottom of the trench, in darkness, in dust, in filth, mingling the blood of his wounds with vile earth, cut, crushed, terrible, and horrible. The mother died beside her dead son, killed by the enemy's bullet. It seemed to me that Serbia had died, too. It seemed to me that I looked on the death of Serbia and her children in the death of his

with one leap I was out of the trench.

There is no more trench, no more shelter, no more world, no man, no humanity! Nothing but raging lions waiting, and beasts, who.

What had been the new cemetery became very quickly an old one, for a third one, newer and much larger, had been created.

growling, are ascending the hill.