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EDITORIAL

## “ASIA FOR THE ASIATICS”.

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**I**T is one of the contradictions of the capitalist system that as its need for new markets and new fields of investments compels it to become more international, it also becomes more intensely national. The needs of the United States drive it ever further afield, into Europe, Cuba, Mexico, South America, the Philippines and Asia, making it a great commercial power; yet they also compel it to hedge itself in with tariff walls, big armies and navies, and such restrictive devices as “national supremacy” and “America for the Americans”. In contradistinction to international tendencies, an aggressive, warlike national attitude is assumed, with a startling and disturbing emphasis.

At present, this contradiction may be conspicuously seen in the Far East. Japan, victorious on the international battlefield into which her economic development and the necessity for self-preservation has forced her, is raising her tariff to a degree that excludes Western importation; and is actively building up her navy and inducing her neighbors in Corea, China and India to practice restriction to the tune of “Asia for the Asiatics”. In other words, this little giant, who was forced to overcome restriction in order to live, is now urging it for the self-same reason! The result is that such an astute capitalist filibuster as the American engineer, John Jay Hammond, feels impelled to sound a note of warning to Western capitalism, especially American capitalism; and the atmosphere seems surcharged with the elements necessary for an international explosion of terrific magnitude! All for the sake of the “national supremacy” for which Oriental as well as occidental capitalism stands, despite the capitalist tendencies toward internationalism!

Apparently, this contradiction is bewildering, inexplicable and insoluble. It is neither one nor any of these. Capitalism must first be national. It is on the national field that it robs labor of the surplus value that creates the necessity for new

markets and fields of investment. From the viewpoint of capitalist interest, to permit the national field to be over swamped with imports or the lack of exports, is to kill the goose that lays the golden egg. Hence the contradiction that, as capitalism grows more international it grows more intensely national. Fortunately for the race, however, the working class of all nations, is learning the cause of this contradiction. The working class of all nations, accordingly, refuse longer to support the system which robs Labor and makes new markets and new fields of investments, together with national hatreds and wars, necessary. In Russia and in Sweden recently its members proclaimed themselves on the side of peace, in accordance with the principles of International Socialism, which, thanks to International Capitalism, is rapidly developing. It is this rising young giant of International Socialism that will make Capital social, thereby abolishing surplus value and permitting the nations of the world to live in unity and accord.

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