THE INTERNATIONAL

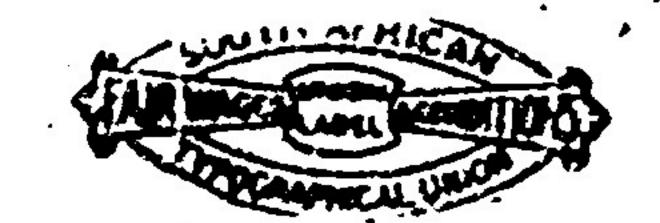
THE ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE (S.A.)

P.O. BOX 4179.

Neppe's Buildings, 54, Fox Street, Johannesburg.

Phone 6035.

No. 171



FRIDAY, FEB. 14, 1919.

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

The Dangers of Lip Piety.

INOCULATING BOLSHEVISM WITH LABOURISM.

Bolshevism receives the most unexnected receptions. Where one would expect execuation we hear half-hearted endorsement. Indeed, in South Africa, Rolshevism is becoming quite respectable with Labourites and petty bourgeois, gaining applause in quarters where the word International Socialism is still anathema and bad for trade. "Verily, verily," we might say of the pacifist reformists and the unreformed Eintridges au l Sampsons, "yee whitewash the grives of the prophets and persecut: their children."

Bolshevism is something like a bomb to draw press attention when you are laying about with a will on that marienette stage--the Johannesburg Town

Council.

Let us beware of Labourite piety. Let us keep them to the issue. Let us hold fast to the meaning of it, the ideal which Lenin is so fond of holding betore the eves of the Russian proletariat to perve them to the struggle — not "economic industrialism," not "industrial Socialism," not "pacifism," but the "International Socialist Revolution" I And in South Africa the word "International Socialism" has acquired a meaning from which Labourite lip piety to Bolshevism shrinks with terror. -- That meaning is solidarity of the proletariat irrespective of colour.

Why do the pacifist petty bourgeoisie sing paeans to Bolshevism in South Africa, while their prototypes in Russia under the Right "Social Revolutionaries" conspire by every means to wreck the Soviet Republic? For the same reason that the British capitalist class applauded Liebknecht and persecuted John Maolean.

When the "Star" threw bouquets at Liebknecht in the earily days of the war did we welcome a conversion to International Socialism? They only saw in Liebknecht a fighter against German capitalism, not a fighter for the proletariat. Likewise the militant petty trader class who are merely anticapitalist without being pro-proletarian —they only see in Bolshevism an enemy of their enemy. It has not come near enough home for them yet to realise or care that Bolshevism is pro-proletarian, the movement of the industrial proletariat, and therefore anti-every other class that stands in the way of its advance, the petty bourgeois class not excepted. When our pro-Bolshevik Labourites realise this—that party of small agents and shopkeepers — their deeds of to-day, like their record on the wer, assure us that they will be found conspiring against the proletarian revolution the testing when comes.

This approval of all ranks for the time being answers well in restraining intervention campaigns; it keeps the ring for the revolution. But with us also the times are urgent. We are within measureable distance in South Africa, not of revolution, but of commercial and political collapse consequent upon the European revolution. And with our great black proletariat, and the great hatred against it by the white population with their machine guns and aeroplanes, the prospect demands serious study and preparation.

Just now, while the mining interest is dominant, it is easy to quell any antinative pogroms, such as the incipient one at Benoni the other day. But with the collapse of international credit, will they bother to run the mines (assuming that America is too embarrassed to step in and control)? With the vanishing of that great economic interest which makes towards equality of the proletariat irrespective of colour, it will then become the ruling class motive (and the ruling class will be the Boer farmer class) to incite civil strife and bloodshed, to keep down the ambitious native, to retain him, that lis, in his place—the place of a good farm labourer. The economic forces will then have a centrifugal effect. They will tend towards race wars. . .

To avert this is the -reat task of the I.S.L. To this matter we have devoted "The International." In the beginming we fondly preached the doctrine that industrial unionism was an arm of power which could achieve the revolution without bloodshed. Although today we have to do largely with the military victories and defeats of the revolution, vet our preparations must ever be those of industrial solidarity. We are always to assume that the revolution will be bloodless. And the way to assume it here is to pin solidarity with the native worker as the sine qua non. of Bolshevism.

The great strategic factor in this work is the white trade unionist. The economie difference between him and the native is the same in kind as that between the skilled A.S.E. man and the "dilutee" in England. We remarked after the Troveville election that in appealing to the white worker for solidarity with his black fellow worker we did a double work; for the echo of it reached the native too, besides being a guarantee to the natives that we are not looking after cheap "leaderships" among them.

The rigging up of skeleton "Workmen's Councils' like 'bogus branches' is futile work, besides being a conspiracy, and outside our function as a party of political propaganda. Our task must ever be to sound again the clarion of solidarity, familiarising the workers with the Shop Stewards' ices, getting white workers to admit Jim Sixpence more and more, with a comradely cuff

on the ear perhaps at first. They will do it! The generous idea is surely gaining ground among them. And when the "hour" strikes, the Workmen's Councils will spring into being overuight.

The latest story of Bolshevik atrocity this week is from the mouth of "Count Tolstoy"--the notorious renegade son who shocked even the capitalist masters to whom he sold himself by his indecent vilification of his great father; a director of that most lying and reactionary of lying reactionary papers, the "Novoye Vremya"; and an organiser of the Black Hundred. These be thy witnesses, () Reuter.

The "Labour Party" held a meeting lasi Sunday to advocate "Reconstruc. tion without Destruction"--like slum landlords when threatened by the M.O.H. It is significant in this connection that in England the "Reconstruction Society," the "Industrial Reconstruction Council, and the "Anti-Socialist Union" have amalgamated, and held a meeting addressed by a high Government official, Mr. Kellaway, the invitations to the meeting having been issued O.H.M.S., post free.

The baptism of John the Baptist, was it of heaven or of men? The Government of Ebert, is it of God or the devil? The Capitalist Press is in an awful fix about it. Praise Ebert, and you praise the Kaiser Socialists; blame him and vou are thrown into the arms of either Junkerdom or Bolshevism. Do they want the Kaiser back as well as the

To those who would charge us with incitement, we reply that we, like Marx, speak of what is and of what must very soon come; not of what ought to be. As well charge the watchful astronomer for the bursting of a planet because he reported it. Where are to-day the Reformists, the Reconstructionists, the Single Tax, the White Labour Policy, Massageurs of the Capitalist Porcupine, Parliament even and its talk, and general elections? They indicate nothing; for the field is getting cleared for the grand denouement of capitalism, with noth. ing left but its armed power and the open challenge of the revolutionary proletariat.

Free copies are posted to likely new subscribers for Four Weeks only. If. vou desire to become a subscriber, send 5s. postal order for one year's subscrip. tion, post free, to Box 4179, Johannesburg.

If you are a subscriber but rour subscription has lapsed, do not delay, bus send along ba. for renewal at once.

Capitalism—the New Phase.

What gallons of ink have been used on the press, what volume of vocal energy has been expended from pulpit and platform, setting forth the new social conscience that was permeating the capitalist class! A humanitarian amotion that would deal out impartial justice to all and every unit of society, giving to each and all a chance of participating in the culture of civilisation which for too long had been denied to the masses! "A new world" was the alobbering sentiment of Brother Capital to Brother Labour. "Let us beat the Hun," said these pharisaical humbugs, "and everything will be done to give the workers that assurance of life that has so long been denied to them!"

In social life the individual never had nor has absolute control of his actions. His business and industrial activities are bound up and curtailed by the prevailing methods of production and distribution. Any individual capitalist that would attempt to give material expression to the many promises made to those who went to the front to fight their so-called country's battles would find himself in the bankruptey court. How long will it take the returned soldiers and other workers to realise that, just as the individual emplayer, no matter how much he would like to, cannot carry out the promises made, so the capitalists as a class cannot fulfil their obligations without committing economic suicide, which is too much to expect from them?

Emotional humanitarianism never been the basis of any past phase of society, nor is it the basis of our present phase. Those interested apologists of the present phase of society who have misled the workers by their platitudes of a new phase of capitalsom, willing to accept new postulates, were either totally ignorant of the economic basis of society, or else the deliberately, as hirelings of the capitalist class, made promises knowing

they could not be fulfilled.

Emotion has no economic value. The fundamental basis of society to-day is production for profits. With such a basis humanitarianism plays no part. We can see the truth of it in the strikes that are taking place in all industrial countries. The workers are asking for better conditions as promised; the employing class refuse to redeem their promises and will only make such concessions as will still preserve to them their strangle hold of dictatorship. their power to say to the workers whether they shall receive a job or aot, when a job means using the tools of production owned by the capitalist class, and receiving in return but: bare subsistence.

There can be no new phase of capitalism of any material benefit to the workers as a mass. The promises made by the ruling class during the war cannot be fulfilled. The sponer returned soldiers and the workers generally realise the futility of asking for the impossible, the better. The system of exploitation of the many by the few has reached a point in time when it must pass away. It, like all other phases of society has been its own gravedigger, and only awaits the consciousness of the workers to realise this and perform the last rites and ceremonies.—J.M.G.

League Notes.

DEFENCE FUND.

Donors to the Defence Fund whose money has not been required in connection with the Johannesburg arrests last July, are hereby finally notified that their contributions will be diverted to other I.S.L. purposes failing objection received from them at the Head Office by the end of this month.

The Entertainment Committee has arranged for a picnic to be held at the Zoo Lake on Sunday, 23rd inst. Tea and cake will be provided, but comrades will be expected to bring their cups and more substantial refreshment with them. Games will be arranged for the children.

Comrades Andrews and Tyler assisted at the formation on Wednesday of the Transvaal Hairdressers' Association.

JOHANNESBURG.

The strikers' meeting at the Palladium and the large open air crowd on the Market Square last Sunday gave a great opportunity for the sale of literature, papers, etc., which was taken full advantage of by Com. S. Barlin. Three hundred "Internationals" were sold and even more could be done if more of the younger comrades helped the Literature Secretary with the handling of the stuff at meetings.

The Fordsburg meeting on Saturday night was carried through successfully in spite of some drunken interruptions.

The Study Class will hold its first "hat night" on Friday, 21st inst. Roll up!

Open-air meetings have been arranged as follows, all at 7.30 p.m.:--

Saturday, Feb. 15.—Cor. Marshall and Maddison Sts., Jeppes: H. Barendregt, C. Dones, A. Goldman, I. Kess-

Sunday, Feb. 16.—Town Hall (West End): F. H. Becker, T. P. Tinker, C. B. Tyler.

Sat., Feb. 22-Market Square, Fordsburg: C. Dones, C. B. Tyler, T. R. M. White.

Sat., Feb. 22.—Cor. Marshall and Maddison Sts., Jeppes: W. J. C. Gibson, R. Rodger, T. P. Tinker.

Sunday, Feb. 23.—Town Hall (West End): H. Barendregt, J. Black, W. Reid.

Comrade W. H. Andrews has consented to conduct the Town Hall meetings unléss otherwise engaged in organising work.

JEWISH SPEAKING BRANCH.

A successful and highly enjoyable social was held last Sunday in the Palmerston Hall. Readings and music interspersed by speeches and other attractions made the time fly by very quickly. The Committee wishes to thank the artists and friends for their assistance.

The Study Class meets at the Palmerston on Wednesday, 19th. Lecturer: I Kessler.

KRUCERSDORP BRANCH.

Open air meeting on Market Square, Saturday, 15th. Com. W. H. Andrews and others at 8 p.m.

Sunday, 16th at Thompson's Buildings, 8 p.m.

PRETORIA BRANCH.

The Study Class opened with an interesting and lively discussion following a lecture by Miss Alper on the "Basic Principles of Socialism."

Com. Stewart will be the speaker at the public meeting to be held on March 2nd. Subject: Trade v. Industrial Unionism.

An open air meeting on Church Square will be held on Sunday, 16th inst. Speakers: W. H. Andrews, C. Dones, and it is hoped that C. Wade and others will attend.

The old Pretoria Socialist Society has very generously handed its library ever to the Branch, and it should be made the nucleus of a valuable addition to the propaganda activities of the local comrades.

BENONI BRANCH.

Look out for the Social and Dance on Wednesday, 5th March, at the Hotel Cecil at 8 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d.

Our readers are notified that the workers on the Johannesburg Municipal Tramways are selling tickets in aid of the Pretoria strikers. Buy, buy, buy!

The strikes of to-day are the incipient birth throes of the Revolution. Those who oppose them are attempting to procure abortion.

The absence of Mr. Crawford from the building strike councils, which have turned down Mr. McFie as arbitrator, is a coincidence that gives food for reflection.

The general movement for shorter hours is probably intensified by the "flu," which compelled a relaxation since realised as indispensable, if only because many have never really recovered from its ravages.

With strikes all around, we are once more treated to the hackneved contrast between the strikers and "the public." If the strikers stand for the interest of the workers, it follows, as always, that "the public" are the residue: the dregs, the drones, the exploiters. Yet how many workers are still snobbish enough to prefer being called members of "the public"!

By this time the workers have all tasted the blessings of victory in permanently increased prices all round, except perhaps of war-stores sold by Government. Why not? Let "us" make hav while the sun of German and Austrian economic suppression shines. That's what "you" fought for and "we" won; now "you" pay and "we" profit.

One of the worst monsters which Socialism is going to abolish is worry: vet it is often the greatest victims of worry who fight Socialism—and thereby only add to their worries!

The best propaganda to-day is to have the pluck, little enough in all conscience, to tell the next man you are a Revolutionary Socialist—a Bolshevik if you like. To your surprise, you will as likely as not find that he is another but, like you, had been afraid to blurt rt out; and so the electric current is set up which even our Censor (still busy as ever, why?) can never break.

Bread and Bulter Movements.

There are a good few people in the abour movement who sincerely believe that Socialism will be brought into being by all classes, who are to be taught the superior morality and economic order of Socialism. To these Socialists (so-called) the theory of the class-war is repuguant and their method of atmining their ideal is first presumably to make everyone, a Socialist, and secondly, for the masses enamoured of the glorious vision they have beheld. in their spare time), to pass resoluions demanding the surrender of the apitalist class. To them Socialism is an ideal, an abstraction, a philosophy for the intellectuals of society, a state of society only attainable and desirable when everybody has become a "highbrow"; and of course it is always a -ocial system for the day after to-morrow—"the people are not ready for it," etc. They call themselves idealists and are always protesting against the materialistic views of the proletarian and class-war Socialists.

It is impossible ever to convert these people. Their views after all are simply the reflection of their economic status. Being generally members of the middle-class, possessing a shop which keeps them in comfort or belonging to one of the professions, they can well afford to wait for Socialism. Why hursy? All's right with the world! Being the next class below the capitalist class they very often ape their (the capitalsts') supercilious manners, and espefally their contempt for the toilers. Consequently, haying a very poor opinion of the workers' intelligence, they sleem it necessary for the workers to undergo'a long course of training in the sciences, arts, etc., before they can possibly attain to the "intellectual". status of the middle classes. These persons (look for them in Labour parties, etc.) deem themselves indispensable to the workers. Can the workers do without their-parvenu culture and shallow philosophy? They think not.

In contrast to these views we hold that Socialism sis a class movement of those who "have only their chains to lose." While it may be argued that all lasses stand to gain by establishing Socialism, yet it is nevertheless true that only the workers as a class organise for it, and only in the proletariat can be found those oppressive economic conditions that are always the driving force of revolutions. There has never yet been a revolution in the world's long history in which the main propelling force has been idealism, altruism or any other abstraction. Classes have risen in révolt to obtain economic advantages or to safeguard existing economic conditions. In other words. revolutions have always been bread and butter movements. It is true that revolutions have always been accompanied by high-sounding phrases of liberty. equality, etc., but these catch words of the philosophers must always be thrust aside when studying history to gain a clear idea of the economic causes of revolutions.

Taken into consideration apart from the economic conditions of the proletariat, Socialism becomes a dead philosophy; but in the hands of the workers it becomes a living creed, revealing to them their helot status in society. embodying their hope for emancipation from wage slavery, and acting as an inspiration to the class war. A social system to be realised right now, by organising and educating their fellow workers.

And never amongst the workers will you find that they expect to attain Socialism save through the class war. In the shops where they are robbed they meet the master class and know full well its greed, hypocrisy, tyranny, and more especially its ferocity and disregard of law and morals when its profits are threatened. The conception of the class war is taught to the workers not by the Socialists alone, but mainly by the master class. Very often it takes the form of class hatred, but this does not render it less effective.

If Socialism, as often stated, is a conception of a social system that can only be realised in the far-off future, or if its coming were dependent upon the intellectual advancement of mankind to the stage of the "super-man," how many of us would work for it? The promise of Socialism in the dim future would make about as many Socialists as the promise of Heaven when one is dead keeps people on the "straight and narrow path." The main driving force in the movement is the promise of its sure triumph in the near future,

A great point of the middle-class Socialists is the fact that many of the Socialist leaders have sprung from their class. This is quite true, but for that reason must we wait until all the middle and upper classes have attained the mental status of say a Karl, Marx? If so we shall have to wait until the sun loses its heat. As a rule the shopkeepers are the most reactionary class (barring the trades unionists) in society to-day. For this article I know I shall be called a barbarian materialist: But as usual our idealists have their feet in the air and their heads in the dirt. It is impossible, and no amount of propaganda can make it otherwise, to have a high, degree of idealism amongst the people whilst the present economic system lasts. It is as much impossible as the ideal of universal peace in an antagonistic form of society. The system of grab and greed is crushing all idealism amongst the people, and the constant presence of the feeling of economic insecurity prevents them from devoting themselves to the development of their mental and spiritual faculties. The establishment of the Socialist Commonwealth is the essential factor for the widespread growth of idealism. When Socialism is established there will follow such a renaissance as the world has never seen. From the ranks of the erstwhile proletariat now freed will arise men who will be supreme in the various fields of intellectual endeavour. The collective mind of man will a blossom like a rose, and, putting to shame the masterpieces of the ages of slavery, the workers of the world will produce unequalled masterpieces of colour, form and sound.—M. LOPES.

The Soviet Government gave the Chinese Eastern Railway back to China. It is now the Allied line of communication against Russia. The United States has erected barracks at Kharbin to accommodate two regiments, to help Russia, of course!

The Liberators."

"Is the Government influenced" (in the matter of a spring campaign against Russia) "by the fact that the French Government accepted Russian coupons as payment for War loan? Is it true that the new currency for Northern Russia was sent from this country and was found on arrival to bear the Imperial eagle of Tsardom?" — "The Manchester Guardian."

"In the City it is realised that events are shaping more and more towards an international suzerainty over Russia modelled on the British surveillance of Egypt. Such an event would transform Russian bonds into the cream of the international market."—"The Financial News" (London).

The Secret of Anti-Bolshevism.—
"More than half the material wealth of this planet lies under Russian soil or is growing on it. Who is to farm this marvellous land and mine its inexhaustible stores? Has England the courage and the foresight? The task remains to be done, and England alone can satisfactorily perform it."—"The Morning Post."

Another long screed about Russian atrocities (from Warsaw by the way) is going the round like a Trust film. It appeared in the London "Times" of December 28, author, "a special correspondent," and in the London "Daily Mail," author, one Jeffries. It is now served up in Africa, with omissions. For instance, the "Star" omits this: "Trotzky has given great attention to the schools, whither carts of his army rations are sent regularly, so that the starving population will be sure to send the children there where food awaits them." (Monstrous') And this: "In Moscow and Petrograd it is universally believed, and by Trotzky feared, that the Allies are on the point of organising an expedition against him" (sic) (yet a dear old lady asks what he wants an army for, now the war to. end war is over.) And this, that the Germans are leaving Ukraine, where "Bolshevism is boiling": that French troops are expected to join the Poles against the Bolsheviks; and so on. Note that all this stuff is published lavishly and daily in the Allied Capitalist Press. while not a word from the other side is allowed through, except occasional gleanings smuggled into a few Socialist papers. Where does "Hear both sides'' come in?

PAMPHLETS IN STOCK.

Compulsory Military Service (De-	
	Sd.
Compromise or Independence, by	
	ed.
Industrial Unionism, by Pratt	Sd.
What Means this Strike? by De	•
Leon	ld.
Industrial Unionism, by Debs	ld
Principles of Industrial Unionism,	
	d.
Workers' Revolution in Russia	id.
Historical Materialism, by Engels	ld.
Postage id. per pamphlet extra	
54, Fox 8t. (Box 4179), Johannesbui	

Printed by the U. P. & P. Co., Ltd., for the I.S.L., Box 4178, Johannesburg

The Recort trushing.

On 5th September last the Ambassadors at Petrograd of the Neutral States wrote to the People's Commissary for Foreign Affairs at Moscow complaining of the regime of terror introduced in Petrograd, Moscow, etc., alleging that "without being authorised by any government authority, armed men, day and night, break into private dwellings, steal and plunder, and arrest and throw into prison hundreds of unfortunates who have nothing to do with the political struggle and whose only guilt consists in belonging to the class of the bourgeoisie, the extermination of which is being preached by the leaders of the communists in their newspapers and their speeches."

The answer of the Soviet Government was as follows:

The Soviet Government utilises with pleasure every opportunity to make clear to the popular masses of all countries the nature of its policies, for the reason that it is the representative not only of the working class of Russia but of the entire exploited human race. It is not our purpose to refute the inventions of the representatives of the Nautral Powers, who, in their note, repeat every slander brought by the Russian bourgeoisie against the Red Army. We need not refute a single allegation about any concrete case of arbitrariness, first, because the representatives of the Neutral Powers do not quote a single concrete case, and, second, because in every warand we find ourselves in a condition of civil war—there will happen misdeeds of individuals.

The representatives of the neutral Powers are not really protesting against scattered misdeeds on the part of irresponsible persons, but against the regime enacted by the workers' and peasants' Government in its struggle against the class of exploiters.

We shall first take the liberty of ask-

ing them a few questions.

Is it known to the representatives of the neutral Powers that, already in its fifth year, there rages an international war into which a little clique of bankers, generals, and bureaucrats has pushed the masses of the people of the entiro world; that the masses of the people are mutually destroying themselves and are cutting each others' throats so that the capitalists may profit billions? Is it known to them that in this war not only have millions of human beings been killed at the front, but that both warring parties have bombed open cities and have killed unarmed women and children? Is it known to them that in this war one of the warring parties has sentenced millions of human beings to death by starvation in that, contrary to international law, it has cut off the supply of bread, hoping that by means of the starvation of children it can force upon the other party an unconditional surrender? Is it known to them that the warring parties take as prisoners hundreds of thousands of unarmed peaceful citizens, putting them to forced labour far from hearth and home and taking from them all right of redress? It is known to them that in all warring countries the ruling capitalist clique has robbed the masses of the people of the right of assembly,

of the freedom of the press, and of the right to strike, and that for even the faintest attempt at protest against the white terror of the bourgeoisie, the workers are sent to gaol or are sent to the front in order to kill within them every thought of their human rights?

The so-called neutral countries did not dare to protest, with so much as a single word, against the white terror of capital; they did not even wish to protest, because the bourgeoisie of all neutral countries aided the capitalists of the warring countries to continue the war for the reason that they made billions by furnishing war material to

both imperialist camps.

We shall permit ourselves to ask still another question: Have the representatives of the neutral Powers' ever heard anything about the bloody suppression of the Sinn Feiners in Dublin? About the shooting, without court order, of hundreds of Irishmen, including Skeffington? Have they ever heard of the white terror in Finland, of the tens of thousands of working men rotting in gaols, of their wives and children, none of whom were ever charged with anything or ever will be? Have they not heard of the mass executions of workers and peasants in the Ukraine? Of the mass shootings of working men by the brave Czecho-Slovaks, these hirelings of French-English capital: The Governments of the so-called neutral countries heard of all this, but never did the thought occur to them to protest against these arbitrary acts of the bourgeoisie in suppressing the working class movement, because they themselves are ready at any moment to shoot the workers battling for their rights, and in their own countries they are ready, in the name and for the defence of the interests of the bourgeoisie, to suppress the slightest sign of the rising of an indignant korking class.

It is sufficient to remind oneself of the recent suppression by military force of labour demonstrations in Denmark, in Norway, in Holland, in Switzerland, etc. Not yet have the workers of Switzerland, Holland and Denmark risen, but already do the Governments of these countries mobilise the military forces against the slightest movement of protest on the part of the workers. When the representatives of the neutral countries threaten us with the indignation of the civilised world, and protest against the red terror in the name of humanity, then we call their attention to the fact that they have not been sent to Russia to defend the principles of humanity, but to take care of the interests of capitalist states; and we advise them not to threaten us with the indignation of the civilised world that is dripping from head to foot with the blood of the workers, but themselves to tremble before the wrath of the masses of the people of the entire world who will rise against a "civilisation" which has plunged the whole human race into the unspeakable misery of a butchery without end.

In the entire capitalist world rules the white terror against the working class. The working class of Russia has put an end to Czarism, whose bloody regime never called forth the protests of the neutral countries. The working classes of Russia have put an end to the rule of the bourgeoisie which, under the banner of the revolution and with the silent consent of

the neutral countries, massacred the peasants because they declared the soil to be their property—the land they had tilled for hundreds of years and had watered with their sweat.

The majority of the Russian people, as represented in the second congress of the workers, peasants, soldiers and, Cossack deputies, placed the government power in the hands of the workers and peasants. A handful of capitalists who desired to repossess themselves of the factories and banks taken from them on behalf of the people; handful of landowners who want to take again from the peasants the land they now hold; a handful of generals who again want to teach docility to the workers and peasants with a whip --have refused to recognise the decision of the Russian people. With the money of foreign capitalists they have mobilised counter-revolutionary bandite by whose aid they cut Russia off from bread so that the bony hand of hunger may strangle the Russian revolution. Having convinced themselves of the impossibility of overthrowing the work. ers' government supported by the mass; es of the workers, they organise counter-revolutionary riots in order to prevent the workers' and peasants' Government from pursuing its constructive. work, in order to prevent it from freeing the country from the anarchy into which the criminal policy of former Governments has plunged it. They have betrayed Russia in the North, in the South, and in the East to foreign imperialist states by calling foreign bayonets from wherever they could get them. Hidden behind a forest of foreign bayonets, they send hired assassins to destroy the leaders of the working class in whom not only the proletariat of Russia but the entire human race sees the personification of its hopes. The Russian working people will crush mercilessly this counter-revolutionary clique which, with the aid of foreign capital and the Russian bourgeoisie, wants once more to put the slave's noose around the neck of the Russian people.

We declare to the proletariat of the entire world that neither hypocritical protests nor specious pleas will protect from punishment those who, on behalf of capital, rise in arms against the workers and the poor peasants, and who would again starve them and entangle them in new wars in the interest of capitalism. We assure equal rights and equal freedom to all those who loyally fulfil their duty as citizens of the Socialist workers' and peasants republic. To those we bring peace, but to our enemies we bring merciless war. We are convinced that the masses of the people of all countries, suppressed and tortured by a mere handful of exploiters, will understand that in Russia force is used only in the name of the sacred cause of the liberation of the masses of the people; we are convinced that not only will they understand but that they will also follow us.

We reject, emphatically, interiorence on the part of neutral capitalist
Powers in behalf of the Russian bourgeoisie, and declare that any attempt
on the part of the representatives of
these Powers to go beyond the boundaries of the lawful protection of their
own nationals will be regarded as an
attempt to give support to the Russian

counter-revolution.