

THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT

EDITOR: SYLVIA PANKHURST.

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MSS. should be addressed to the Editor at

400, Old Ford Road, London, E.3

All business communications to the

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THE GREAT CONSPIRACY.

The Bar Between Russian and German Socialism.

The greatest effort of the Council of Ten, which controls the Peace Conference, is to keep Russia and Germany apart.

Russia's paramount need is modern agricultural machinery, in order that her 140,000,000 peasant cultivators may be enabled to produce enough to maintain themselves in comfort, and sufficient surplus food to sustain the industrial population of the towns.

Russia, in time, could develop manufactures of all kinds to supply her agricultural needs. Unless and until she does that, she should import large quantities of manufactured articles from abroad.

Germany, a country of vast industries and Russia's near neighbour is the natural source for supplying her with manufactured goods.

Two factors have closed to the Russian peasant their most convenient source of supply—the autocratic Government of the Czars, and the jealousy of the Allied Capitalists, who are the rivals of the German Capitalists.

Oppressive laws, and the extortion of tax-gatherers and landlords, kept the Russian peasants in a state of such extreme poverty that they could not buy adequate agricultural machinery and manufactured necessities.

Though the peasants used only primitive implements on their own land, they were accustomed to using the most up-to-date machinery and modern methods of cultivation on the estates of their employers. Only poverty prevented them from getting these for their own land.

Allied intrigues, combined with the jealousy and suspicion, always entertained towards their near neighbours by imperialistic rulers, induced the Czar to form Alliances hostile to Germany.

Nevertheless prior to the war the greater part of the manufactured goods and especially the machinery and the tools for making machinery, which Russia imported, came from Germany.

Though these imports did not find their way to the poor Russian peasants, though only the landlords could buy German agricultural machinery, Russian manufactures were mainly dependent on German machinery and Russia was largely dependent on Germany for manufactured goods.

Imports from Germany ceased on the outbreak of war, and except in munitions there was on the whole, a progressive decrease in the imports from other countries.

Since the Workers' Socialist Revolution, imports from Allied countries have ceased, and the Allies prevent importation from the Central Empires and even from neutral nations.

The Allied intervention in Russia is moreover hindering the development of Russian industries by preventing raw material from reaching her industrial plants.

Russian peasants are not able to raise abundant crops, because the importation of seed and agricultural machinery is prevented by the Allied Governments.

Russian peasants finding that money is valueless to them, because they cannot buy with it what they need, are reluctant to sell their crops which are barely sufficient to maintain their families.

Socialist Germany would come to the aid of Socialist Russia and, each supplying the other's needs, they would together establish an invincible

combination, from which the Socialist community would grow in such strength and beauty, that the entire continent, and shortly the whole world, would be drawn, by its influence, to organise on the Socialist basis.

The Allied Governments understand that if Socialist Russia be allied to a Socialist Germany, Socialism will be irrevocably established; but blinded by capitalist greed, and tenacious of power, they fail to realise the glorious possibilities and the rich stores of happiness and evolutionary development, which the golden era of Socialism will open to the human race. They fail to realise also that the coming of the Socialist era is inevitable.

Therefore the Allied Governments are straining every nerve to prevent the alliance of Russian and German Socialism. To prevent German manufactures reaching Russia, they are endeavouring to reduce Germany's manufacturing power to the lowest possible ebb. They are preparing to take from Germany large territories containing raw material required by her for manufacturing purposes. They are preparing to hand over to other countries between 12,000,000 and 13,000,000 of her people. They are creating new states to reduce the power of the German people and to divide them from Russia. Allied armies are occupying the railways and important industrial centres of Germany. They are reducing the energies of the German people by starvation. Rather than allow Germany's manufactures to aid Socialist Russia, the Allied Governments seem prepared to maintain indefinitely a military occupation of the whole of Germany, or as much of it as may be necessary to their purpose.

In their efforts to prevent the growth and establishment of Socialism, this Council of Ten is plunging the people of the greater part of Europe into untold misery, holding them in the grip of relentless famine, forcing them to slow painful death and sub-human degradations.

In order to accomplish their purpose the members of this Capitalist Council of Ten will enforce upon the people still greater suffering, but their effort to prevent the coming of Socialism will be in vain. It is inevitable.

Innumerable writers have portrayed the hard life of the Russian peasant under the Czarism; a life whose poverty was not lessened, but instead greatly increased, by his enfranchisement from serfdom. True he was no longer openly bought and sold; his freedom to marry was no longer by legal right interfered with, as it was in the old days, notably by a certain old maiden of the nobility, who, as recorded by Turgeniev, forbade her serfs to marry, saying: "God forbid. Here am I living single. What indulgence! What are they thinking of!"

Generals Kolchak and Denikin are fighting to re-establish the old régime. The Allies are supporting Generals Kolchak and Denikin.

When the peasants were freed the landlords drove them from their land, and either forced them to buy it, or if they chose, gave them a small piece of stony ground usually less than one dessiatine (two and three-quarter acres) and called a "beggar's lot." Those who refused to leave their land were flogged and even killed. When the peasants were serfs the Government estimated that a peasant family needed at least 33 acres of land to maintain itself, and took steps to assure this; but in 1900 the average amount of land possessed by each peasant family was only 17 acres. Perhaps it may be thought that the peasants were able to raise more produce per acre than in 1861. On the contrary, the rate of production had actually fallen.

It is estimated that if Russia were cultivated as Britain is, she could maintain 500,000,000 people; as it is, her 140,000,000 people are starving. Walling, who made a special study of this question in the years 1905-8, reports that most of the wagons and barrows were made without a scrap of iron, and the ploughs in general use were of a type used a hundred years ago. The ploughing was only six inches deep with the result, that as drought is frequent in the most fertile districts, the crops fre-

quently failed. If the ploughs had been capable of turning up twelve or eighteen inches famine would have been rare. The high tariff on iron and the peasants' extreme poverty are responsible for the fact that only one-tenth as much iron was used per head as in the United States.

The Russian peasant had an income equal only to one-third that of a poor German peasant and one-fourth that of the poorest French. The Russian peasant produced only half enough to maintain his family and animals in decency; yet even the little that he produced was not left to him. He had so little land of his own that a part of what he had was rented from the landlord, and the rent charged was often as much and sometimes twice as much as the land could produce. To make up the difference the peasant was forced to work for the landlord.

The Government taxed the peasant very heavily, both directly and indirectly. The cost of petroleum when Walling wrote was multiplied four-fold by the tax, the tax accounted for four-fifths of the price of alcohol, one-half the price of tea. The taxes on the peasants' land amounted to all that their land could produce, and much of what they could make by their labour elsewhere. The tax collectors appeared at the harvest, and took every scrap of the peasants' property which was not considered necessary to prevent immediate starvation. Professor Simkhovitch showed that in the province of Novgorod the food deficit, to be made up by the peasants' work in the cities or on the landlord's estates, amounted to 3,000,000 roubles. The taxes reached a similar sum, and all that remained to the peasants was about 12½ roubles (25s.) per household, from which they had to buy a part of their food, and all their clothing, agricultural implements, and other necessities.

The peasants could scarcely afford to have for themselves a sheepskin coat, and this necessary garment was worn till it was in rags. The peasants could not afford to retain the leather they produced, but wore shoes made of bark. The harness was made of rope or knotted vegetable fibre. They could not afford woollen underclothing even in winter. The high tariff on cotton increased their difficulty in buying it to wear. They seldom eat meat, (usually only four times a year), or vegetables. They could not afford tea, but drank a brew of sour black bread. Their staple food was black bread and potato soup.

The women worked 12 to 15 hours a day. They often gave birth to their children in the fields, and returned to work within three or four days. These women could not long suckle their children and when their milk failed, they chewed black bread and put it into little bags for the babies to suck. No wonder there was a high infant mortality! The death rate for all ages was higher than that of any other civilised community, and half a million people died annually, sacrificed to poverty.

Famines, owing to the primitive methods of cultivation, were frequent as we have said. In the district of Buzuluk in the Samara province in 1906, the peasants plucked the ears of grain by hand, lest any should be lost; and fed their starving animals with the thatch from the roof. A certain Mr. Keeling has recently complained to *The Westminster Gazette* that in Petrograd in this year of war and scarcity, his bread ration was only half a pound a day, and that the public dinner, to which he was entitled, consisted only of thin soup, meat and bread. What was the relief granted by the Government of the Czar in the famine of 1906? In that year there was no war and no Revolution; in that year Russia exported grain to the value of more than 500,000,000 roubles though 30,000,000 of her people were starving, and the export of rye actually continued in the famine districts. The peasants there who had sold their grain at three-quarters of a rouble were a few weeks later forced to buy it back at a rouble and a quarter.

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The relief sent by the Czar's Government to the famine areas was 40 lbs. per head for the whole season; according to Walling at least 100 lbs. was necessary: his estimate is terribly low. The people were fed not with bread but with a weak soup made with bread and potatoes. In many places the grain sent by the Government for seed was rotten and full of worms and mixed with earth and manure, and it arrived late for the sowing. In some cases the sum assigned for this relief was stolen outright. The contractors and Ministers responsible went unpunished.

And what view did the Czar's Government take of the peasants' life of hideous poverty? Walling reports the view of a lieutenant of the notorious Witte. Having observed that the peasants commonly wore a belt which they tightened to allay the pangs of hunger, he said:

"Why, under the present perfectly hopeless circumstances, is not this a very practical device? The peasant is underfed, but there is not enough work for him to do. Why should he be kept in full strength? Is it not fortunate for Russia that her peasants do not have the habit of eating as much as they do elsewhere?... There are many savage races that, forced by necessity, have accommodated themselves to the most varied and meagre diet."

But Social Reform was demanded. The "Social Reform" inaugurated by the late Czar consisted, firstly in the abolition of the Mir, the peasants' ancient communal council, which was too democratic for his liking; and, secondly, the passage of a law to enable the peasants to sell or mortgage their lands. This simply meant that in the first year of famine the poorer peasants would lose their land, and become wholly dependent on what they could earn* as labourers at an average wage of 8d. per day.

Shortly the mass of the Russian peasantry would have been landless, but the Revolution has changed the course of events.

The Revolution gave land to the people, but it was impossible that the desperate situation of the peasants could be righted all at once. In the year 1911, 46.6 per cent of Russia's total imports were from Germany, 15 per cent from Britain, 42 per cent of the agricultural machinery, 80 per cent of other machinery, 59.6 per cent of parts of machinery and apparatus, 88 per cent of the scientific apparatus and instruments, 77.7 per cent of iron and steel goods, and 89.9 per cent of the goods made of copper and alloys, which Russia imported came from Germany. The respective percentages from Britain being 11.1 per cent, 15 per cent, 11.4 per cent, 2 per cent, 10 per cent and 2 per cent. All imports from Germany ceased with the war. And now all Allied imports are stopped and neutral imports are largely prevented by the Allies. Maxim Litvinoff has told us that 40,000,000 roubles worth of vegetable seeds bought from Denmark and paid for in cash by Russia, were stopped by the Allies, and of the Allied ultimatum which has forced the Scandinavian nations to refuse to trade with Russia. The Russian peasants were starving for lack of agricultural implements before the war, and though the Soviet Government and the peasants' land committees have collected the agricultural machinery of the great landowners, and now arrange for it to be lent out and used for the general benefit, of course there is not enough to go round. The bad harvests caused by the war have resulted in a shortage of seed, as well as of food, and the Allies are not merely preventing imports, but are hindering supplies from passing from one part of Russia to another. Counter-revolutionary armies supported by the Allies prevent the coal from reaching Soviet Russia.

The petroleum oilfields of Baku in 1912 produced 169,124,814 roubles worth of oil.

* According to the Russian Year Book, edited by Dr. Edward P. Kennard, the average total earnings of the industrial workers who are subject to the law of fines (more than half) was £25 a year in 1912, two-thirds of the women got less than 30s. a month.

Of this 8,882,408 roubles worth was kept in Russia, and 147,106,580 roubles worth was sent abroad. Russia is not getting the benefit of her oilfields. The people are without oil for domestic use. For the trains run by oil it is necessary largely to substitute wood. Russia does not even receive the money which she should gain by the sale of her oil abroad. Mr. Churchill has explained that a British Army of "a certain size" is concentrated at Baku, and *The Mining World*, casually referring to the Baku oil product under the heading "News from the Properties," confirms the news that Russian petroleum has passed into British hands.

Russia was always deficient in railway accommodation. Walling tells us that the railways never could transport the produce of the peasants: only that of the landlords. He says that the peasants were often obliged to wait three or four days in the station for a train which would hold them. The roads were an even worse case. In Simbirsk, he says, the peasants paid a farthing per head per annum for the upkeep of roads, and the landlords, who had "an absolute monopoly of local government," paid nothing whatever for such purposes. War has in every country made terrible havoc of roads and railway equipment, and war still continues in Russia.

Under these conditions it is to be understood that the Russian peasant, still scarcely able to produce food enough to feed his family, should shrink from parting with his grain for paper money, which, under existing conditions, cannot purchase anything that he needs. Bessie Beatty, an American writer, who was in Russia during the Kerensky regime and until the early part of last year, speaks of the peasants' reluctance to part with their grain even then. She says:—

"The greatest difficulty that each succeeding Government experienced was that of making the peasants give up their grain. They wanted plows, cotton for their looms, shoes for themselves and their children; and the roubles they received had depreciated so greatly in value that they had no purchasing power. The peasants looked upon them as so many scraps of worthless paper."

"A Russian who had two estates down in the south told me of an excursion that he made to the Government of Chernigoff in September. He went there to try to induce the peasants to sell their grain to the army. 'There was one village,' said he, 'where there were two thousand inhabitants. It was in the heart of the rich grain country. Since the previous December no official had been allowed to enter the village. The people had isolated themselves from the rest of Russia, and officials remained away under threat of being killed. I went alone on horseback with a rifle and some ammunition. As I neared the place I saw the villagers coming out to meet me. I told them they must give bread to the army, which was in danger of starving at the front. I made what I thought was a forcible plea. When I finished an old grey-haired peasant, who seemed to be the spokesman of the crowd, said: 'That's all very clever talk, but now listen to what we have to say. You want our bread. You offer to give us five roubles a pood (forty lbs.). What is five roubles to us? We want to buy shoes. For shoes we must pay a hundred roubles. We will keep our grain.' 'All right,' I answered, 'if you want to keep your grain you can keep it; but you need petrol, and sugar for your tea, and iron for your plows. If you do not give us grain we will not give you these.' The old peasant smiled and beckoned me to follow him. He led me to a window where a couple of crude pine torches cut from a near-by wood had been placed. 'Those were the lights our grandfathers used,' he said. 'They are good enough for us, you can keep your petrol.' 'But sugar—you must have sugar for your tea.' 'Our grandfathers needed no sugar for their tea. They got along without tea, and they had as much bread as we have.' 'What about iron for your plows?' I asked. Surely, here at any rate I had him stumped. He led me to a shed at the back of his house, and showed me a small, primitive sochar plow, in use now only in the most backward sections. 'Do you see that blade?' he asked. 'Our fathers used those and they had bread. There's enough steel on the old plows in the village to make new plows to last four years. You can keep your petrol and your sugar and your iron,' he said triumphantly. 'You know,' I said, playing my trump card, 'we can bring troops down here and force you to give up

your grain for the good of your country.' 'Yes, of course,' he said, 'we are only two thousand, and if you brought a whole regiment you could beat us. But we will recall our own peasants from the front, and when they come, do you suppose they will fight for you? No, they will fight for us.' It was of no use—all threats had failed. I tried persuasion. 'But please, please,' I said, 'your brothers are starving—please give us some grain for the army.' 'Yes,' he said, 'we will give you bread. We will give you two thousand poods of bread for our brothers at the front.' 'We will be glad to pay you—' I began. He interrupted. 'No,' he said, 'it is a present—we will not sell you bread. We have no use for your roubles. They are scraps of paper.'"

"...The peasant who could neither read nor write knew enough to realise that money is paper when its purchasing power is gone. Unless it could be transmuted into farm implements, it was of less value to him than his grain. The dream of the Soviets was communally owned farm machinery that would lift Russian agriculture out of its primitive state and lessen the drudgery of the peasant's desperate struggle for life."

Lenin tells of the well-to-do peasants; the little capitalists who hoard and profiteer whilst their brothers starve. Bessie Beatty adds:—

"The same official told me that he had visited the village of Radouel, and found the people without bread, while two kilometres away the peasants were feeding bread to the pigs and selling pigs for lard. 'Why should we sell bread for 2 roubles a pood, when we can get 150 roubles a pood for fat pork?' the peasants asked."

The Germans, with their highly developed industries and manufacturing skill, might come to the aid of Russia; but the Allies prevent it. When the German Revolution broke out, the Russians offered food trains to Germany, and desired that the two nations should co-operate; but such co-operation was "forbidden by the Allies, and the reactionary elements in Germany were thus able to point out that friendship with Russia meant renewed war with the Allies. The Allies refused to negotiate with the German Workers' and Soldiers' Council, which was the equivalent of the Russian Soviet. Foch ordered the Allied armies to dissolve such councils."

Since the Armistice Germany's own hardships have grown more serious than when she was still at war. Mr. Churchill's own words are the best proof of this:—

"We are holding all our means of coercion in full operation or in immediate readiness for use. We are enforcing the blockade with rigour. We have strong armies ready to advance at the shortest notice. Germany is very near starvation. All the evidence I have received from officers sent by the War Office all over Germany shows, first of all, the great privations which the German people are suffering, and, secondly, the danger of a collapse of the entire structure of German social and national life under the pressure of hunger and malnutrition. Now, is therefore the moment to settle."

British soldiers have complained of the hardships of German people. General Plumer has protested. Here comes a protest from another young soldier:—

"The following information has been given to me by the mother of a soldier just returned from Cologne, from the Army of Occupation there:— 'Sad as it is,' he says, 'to see the children so pale and thin and so timid of every one, there is one thing far worse in his opinion. It seemed to him nearly every woman and girl seen in the streets of Cologne was a prostitute, and for a piece of soap and a lump of bread or a few biscuits, a soldier could live with a German girl for a week. He called it 'live,' his mother said. 'God forgive us.' I cannot conceive that such ill can be done, as is being done by the continuance of this inhuman blockade, and no just punishment follow."

Volkstimme's report of the wholesale destruction by the French troops of Occupation in the Maingau chemical factory, for which no redress could be secured, is ominous of future possibilities. Very ominous, too, is the account of Allied intentions given in *The Times*, March 8th, by Mr. Frank H. Simonds, an account corroborated from other sources. According to Mr. Simonds when the peace treaty comes to be signed, Germany will have been deprived of between 12,000,000 and 13,000,000 people who are to be placed under foreign rule. President Wilson laid down as one of his peace terms:—

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

Disregarding this pledge to the peoples of the world, the Council of Ten is arranging, as Mr. Simonds explains, to hand over to France not merely Alsace Lorraine, but also the Saar Valley an area of about 1,000 square miles, "because of its great coal deposits." Says Mr. Simonds:—

"The 30,000 inhabitants would unquestionably choose the German rather than the French nationality at this time, but the question of self-determination in this specific case is affected by other considerations."

Even in Alsace Lorraine the workers are holding demonstrations to express their desire to return to German rule because a change of citizenship has meant that their masters cause them to work longer hours for lower wages than before. Germany is to lose, Mr. Simonds continues, not only Alsace Lorraine and the Saar basin, but, as Sir Edward Carson and the Secret Treaties promised, all the territory on the west bank of the Rhine. A Rhenish republic is to be created to cover the remaining area. This is not all, the Rhinlands east of the Rhine, are to be occupied indefinitely by the Allied armies, perhaps for 10 years, probably more, till the heavy indemnity which the Allies are demanding has been paid; an indemnity incurred, if incurred at all, by the Kaiser's Government, not by the people. This is not all. Posen, Dantzig, together with the whole of East and West Prussia, are to be taken from Germany and handed over to Poland, in order that Poland, as Mr. Simonds tells us, may become capable alike of resisting German and Bolshevist attack. Thus on the French frontier and in Schleswig 2,500,000 Germans are to be removed from Germany, 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 Germans are to become Poles and 4,500,000 are to belong to the Rhenish Republic.

Europe will be divided into water-tight compartments for resisting Bolshevism. Russia is to be kept apart from Germany by a strong Poland and Allied money and munitions will help Poland to fight Bolshevism. On the west the danger of Bolshevism spreading from Germany is to be prevented by further buffer states. The present terrible blockade is making German capitalists and aristocrats ready to suffer a British occupation which will hold down the workers, especially as the German Government, in response to pressure from the workers, has antagonised them by taking some feeble steps towards the Socialisation of industry, and has agreed to incorporate the Workers' and Soldiers' Councils in the Constitution.

There is evidently a difference of opinion amongst the Allied politicians as to the best way to stay Bolshevism. Lansing, the American Secretary of State, says Germany must be fed: "not out of pity for the German people... but because we, the victors in this war, will be the chief sufferers if it is not done." The Liberal newspapers continually urge that the people must be fed to defeat Bolshevism. The Spartacist battles in Germany, they point out to be largely a fight for actual food. *The Daily News* records that the fighting discloses hidden stores of food, which are seized by the starving people; and tells that the people waiting in the food queues say: "Thank God, we are armed." Press reports declare that the German rich are indulging in an orgy of luxury and pleasure, dancing whilst the people starve, and Germany is being reduced to ruins. Yet the same newspapers are unanimous in opposing the Spartacist Socialists, who wish to end this corruption and to establish the era of equality.

In spite of the frequent declarations of Allied Ministers and members of the Council of Ten that Germany must be fed, the blockade continues with unabated rigour; the ultra-coercionist politicians hold sway.

The employers and the Government, which more and more reveals itself as the Executive Committee of the Capitalist class, are now so contemptuously flouting every demand of the workers, that even the least class-conscious of the old-fashioned Trade Union leaders, are moved to indignation. A situation is developing, in which, in spite of their desire to avoid conflict, the National Trade Union officials may be forced to approve a strike and to follow the lead of the restive rank and file, as did those district officials whom the A.S.E. lately dismissed. The Railway Executive has indeed thrown down the gauntlet to labour, in refusing to allow the 33s. war increase won by the railway workers, to remain a permanent part of their wage. The railway men in pre-war days were amongst the sweated workers of the country: to propose a gradual reduction of 15s. to 24s. a week in their present wage is not only an outrage; it is just one of those provocative proposals which no body of workers will accept, the refusal of double pay for Sunday duty, and the offer of time and a quarter instead, will serve to inflame the situation. One can only conclude that the Government expects that a strike will eventually develop and is choosing its own moment for it. Perhaps, also, it prefers to have the workers fighting a defensive battle to retain their present status than an offensive to secure improved conditions.

The coal inquiry has revealed much profiteering, and on behalf of the Executive of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, Mr. W. Straker has submitted proposals for nationalisation. These provide for a national mining council appointed for five years, and consisting of five representatives chosen by the Miners' Federation, five appointed, presumably by the Government, to represent consumers, and a Chairman appointed by the Government who will be Minister of Mines. The scheme provides district mining councils and pit committees constituted in the same way, and sitting for three years and one year respectively. It is proposed that the Minister of Mines may compulsorily purchase mines and land for sinking new mines. It was suggested that the mine owners could be paid the value of their invested capital out of the average profits of 25 per cent

The German soldiers cannot be trusted to fight Socialism: therefore, though the German Government has announced its intention to build up a substantial army, Mr. Lloyd George insists, and the Peace Conference has agreed, that the German army shall consist of only 70,000 or 100,000 men (though General Foch and his military colleagues would have allowed 200,000) and that conscription in Germany shall be abolished. Britain, on the other hand, is to take Germany's place as a military nation with an army of 900,000, in the first instance, and conscription is to be extended till April 20th, 1920. Germany is to be allowed no military air force and the question of a German commercial air force is still under discussion.

The German Navy, it is suggested, should be distributed amongst the Allies, the greater part of the German mercantile marine is also to be so distributed, and the British are to have three-quarters of the tonnage. Whilst capitalists are prosecuting the war against Bolshevism and punishing Germany, they take care to look after their own private interests, for, of course they intend that these ships shall pass to them, like the ships built by the British Government during the war. The British Navy is meanwhile to be maintained at the pre-war two-power standard, which will undoubtedly mean an enormous increase, because America is also we believe about to become a great Naval Power. E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

IMPORTANT.

NEXT WEEK we shall publish criticisms of the Berne Conference by International Socialists including: F. Lorient, of the Left Wing French Socialist Party; Ernst Toller, Member of the Executive Council of the Bavarian Soldiers' and Sailors' Council; R. Grimm, Swiss Socialist Deputy; Ch. Rappoport, famous French Socialist writer; Louisa Münch, Swiss Socialist, &c.