

War Plans Against U.S.S.R.

NO. 6 OF THE SERIES "THE NEXT WAR"

By Bertram D. Wolfe

The continued existence and growth of the Soviet Union is a thorn in the side of the imperialist powers. It is a constant source of inspiration and fighting spirit to the workers of other lands, and to the oppressed peoples of every colonial and semi-colonial country. The capitalist ruling class, rightly feels that the world cannot endure permanently part capitalist and part communist.

For the unemployment-making, war-breeding, capitalist system in decay, it is now or never. The ruling class must hasten, has been hastening its preparations for a new attack. Now while the Russian workers are straining under the burden of their attempts to build up modern industry, in a backward country, and while the Communist International is weakened by wrong policies and the splitting tactics of its official leadership, now is the time to attack.

The ruling class of the capitalist countries is spurred on by the fear of their own masses, and yet delayed by the same fear. They are held back by their own antagonisms which make it difficult for the various imperialist powers to unite, yet they are impelled forward by those same antagonisms because they fear the influence of the Russian Revolution in showing the workers how to end the next imperialist war and abolish once and for all the causes of war together with the capitalist system in which they root. It is hard to fight each other while the Soviet Union exists. It is hard to unite against the Soviet Union while the other antagonisms exist. Such is the complicated interweaving of contradictions rushing the world headlong towards a new world war. Above all the interplay of forces, (Anglo-American, Anglo-Franco-Italian, Italo-Yugoslav, European, African, Asiatic, etc.), and inextricably intertwined with them because any war anywhere involves the probability of proletarian revolution and the capitalist struggle against the working-class state, —the dominant antagonism is the driving force that impels the imperialist powers to plot without ceasing and to press ever nearer towards a united attack on the Soviet Union.

Financing the War

The biggest step so far was made on October 2, 1930, at Geneva. With little publicity, less discussion and no public opposition (not even from the communist International!) 28 countries signed an agreement subscribing a loan of \$140,000,000 as a war subsidy to any state which, in the judgement of the League of Nations, has been "attacked," or is in danger of being attacked by another nation. More money is to be added to this fund as additional countries ratify the agreement. Even a political illiterate should be able to understand that there is only one country against which the League of Nations, with all its inner antagonisms, can ever unite to the extent of a unanimous declaration that it was the attacker, and that nation is the Soviet Union. France has already lined up Finland, Poland, Roumania, Yugo-Slavia, Czechoslovakia and other powers bordering on the Soviet Union to begin such a war, and this is neither more nor less than a bribe of \$140,000,000 to the one making the first move.

This action is the proposal made by England after "private conversations" with Lord Cecil in 1926 (during the Arcos raids and the rupture of British relations with Soviet Russia). From the date of its proposal to the present moment there has been a growing rain of propaganda against the Soviet Union. The moment of its ratification coincides with the development of a world-wide protest for an economic boycott against the Soviet Union.

Severing Economic Relations

The leading role in the boycott plot was played by France, anxious to assure its position such as Poland and Roumania that they will get world support when they begin war on behalf of the powers that control them. Pierre-Etienne Flandin, Minister of Commerce, proposed at Geneva that a united economic attack should be made on the Soviet Union. Eduard Berriot, former Prime Minister, leader of the "opposition" and chief of the "Radical Socialists" writes in his paper *L'Ere Nouvelle*:

"The whole of Europe is threatened by Russian dumping and yet it delays taking the necessary measures . . . a European Federation should be started upon an economic basis long before political plan is attempted."

In the United States the call to strangle the Soviet Union by economic boycott and a ready response in the actions of the Treasury Department, the bill of Senator Tasker L. Oddie of Nevada, the propaganda campaigns of Hamilton Fish and Matthew Woll, Tuttle's attempt to name up Amtorg for smuggling watches to this country, (reminiscent of Whelan's forged Amtorg documents), and Ralph Basley's call to united military action for the overthrow of the Soviet government. Ralph Basley's declaration the name of the National Civic Federation, open-shoppers' organization of which Elihu Root is President and Matthew Woll a vice-president, is the frankest.

It reads:

"Certain of the powers themselves are preparing right now to make a common stand against the destructive forces of Bolshevism. . . who knows but that sooner or later, joint military action by all the powers may be necessary to defend civilization even to the point of wiping bolshevism off the face of the earth."

Steps in the War Plot

A few of the recent provocations upon the Soviet Union, each a step in the direction of a new world war: Stimson's note on Manchurian War Lord to speak on Russia; Hender-

ganda in England and is "investigating"; the German Government's raids on the Soviet consulates; the German court's acquittal of rouble forgers because they gave as their defense the fact that they were trying to overthrow the Soviet Government, of Georgia (!); Mexico's breaking of diplomatic relations under orders from Wall Street; France's invitation to Miliukoff, Russian counter-revolutionary, to speak in the Chamber of Deputies, (an invitation issued on motion of the French Socialists!); the French Koutieff hoax; the recent decision of a Japanese court to award large sums of money of the former Czarist Government to the White Russian counter-revolutionary and Czarist officer, Padtyagin; the Polish bombing plot; the Finnish military plot recently exposed by the Finnish government itself thanks to an open scrap between two sections of the Finnish ruling class; the Finnish deportations; the Roumanian mobilization in Bessarabia; the fresh crop of Riga lie-factory stories in the world capitalist press; the international sabotage plot just exposed in the Soviet Union; and biggest of all, the virulent hymn of hate from Pope, priests, ministers and rabbis calling for a religious crusade against the Soviet Union.

Poland and Roumania are Catholic countries, as is France and other lands to be involved, but the call of his "Holiness" went far beyond a blessing on their intended war plans. It was a call to the churches of the world for a united front in the name of the "Prince of Peace" for war on the land of the workers. And for the first time in the history of Christendom, Roman Church and Greek Church, Jewish Rabbi and Christian Priest, Catholic Pope and dissenting minister, united for a common struggle. It takes the plotting of a bloody and iniquitous war to bring peace between the innumerable warring creeds!

Cardinal Faulhaber gave the best expression to the war aims of the church in his open letter to the German people:

"Before our eyes terrible tragedies are being enacted—the attempts of Russian bolshevism to rule a nation without God, to erect a state that ignores ten commandments, to build up a new system of culture without belief in the soul or the world hereafter, and to teach a political economy that refuses to recognize private property. . . (note the order of climax—B. D. W.)

"Russia today offers a terrible picture of moral depravity. . . Adolescent youth is without any discipline, marriage and family life have sunk below the level of African tribes. . . The whole world is deeply concerned in this matter. . ."

And Rabbi Wise prepared his war formula, adding only the saving word "moral" because war has not yet begun:

We shall never lay down our moral arms until the Soviet has ended its ruthless warfare against religion. . ."

One has to be blind indeed not to see in such declarations as those of Cardinal Faulhaber, the Pope, the priests, ministers, patriarchs, metropolitans and rabbis, the slogans under which the war will be waged. It is all strongly reminiscent of the "anti-hun" propaganda, and goes it one better. The cross is to be the banner of this 20th Century Crusade. Priest and Rabbi, Pope and Patriarch, Metropolitan and Moderator and Minister, are to bless the sword! And the battle cries will be:

Save religion!
Save the family!
Civilization is in danger!
For God and Humanity!
For home and property!
Below the level of the African tribes!
Smash the tartar hordes!
Fiends in human form, lower than the beasts!
The hosts of anti-Christ!
God is with us!

The following article in *Comrade Wolfe's series on "The Next War"* is entitled "What It Will Be Like" and deals with poison gas, chemical warfare, aerial attack and the mechanized army. It is the most astounding and sensational of the series of exposures that he has been making. No worker should miss it. Order extra copies for distribution in your shop and to your friends. The final article will deal with "What to Do About It."

HOW TO FIGHT THE FASCIST DANGER

Towards the end of October Heinz Neumann, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany, accompanied by some former Red Front Fighters made his appearance at a meeting of the "National Socialists" (Fascists) in Berlin. Thru the intervention of Dr. Goebbels (the Fascist leader), Neumann was given the floor for half an hour, with the assurance of no interruptions. Apparently forgetting the official Communist Party slogan of: *Hit the Fascist and social-fascists!*, Heinz Neumann made an appeal for a "cessation of the fraternal struggle" between the fascist and Communist workers!

This may sound incredible but it is taken from an official report of the events. The same people who make murderous attacks upon opposition Communists, who try to break up opposition Communist meetings, who do not hesitate a moment at physical violence against revolutionary fighters, fraternize with the fascists and deplore the "fraternal strife" between them and the revolutionary workers! When the time comes these people will be judged by the working class for what they are. . .

THE REVOLUTION

SP BACKS ANTI-SOVIET FRONT

Some Socialist Bodies Raise Protest to SP Stand

HILLQUIT-FISH UNITY

NEW YORK, November 24.—One of the most bitter attacks ever launched against the Soviet Union was made yesterday by Morris Hillquit, national chairman of the Socialist Party, at a conference representing various "socialist" anti-Soviet groups in this city. The conference was held in the Hotel Pennsylvania.

The conference was called to protest against the vigorous measures being taken by the Soviet government to destroy the conspiracies being engineered by the Russian agents of the international bankers to overthrow the workers government of the U S S R and to hinder and obstruct the building of Socialism in the country. The conference showed that the Socialist leaders now completely share the viewpoint of the bosses in regard to the USSR and that they are ready to do the bosses dirty work in spreading lies about the Soviet Union and in stirring up sentiment against it. Hillquit was not quite sure whether the Soviet Union was "better than Czarist Russia or Fascist Italy!!!"

The anti-Soviet conference of the "Socialists" comes as a part of the big international campaign against the USSR that is being prepared in all capitalist countries to-day. The recent exposure by the Soviet government of the secret plans of the British, French and other governments for armed intervention in the USSR shows how real and how immediate the danger is. The various Socialist organizations are being used by their leaders as instruments in this campaign against the first workers republic. Among the worker membership of these organizations there is a growing resentment against this shameful anti-working class conduct of their leaders. In the various Workmen's Circle branches more and more voices are being heard in favor of the Soviet Union. In spite of the fact the anti-Soviet conference at Hotel Pennsylvania was endorsed by the national Socialist Party, in spite of the fact that such Socialist luminaries as Hillquit, Lee, Panken, etc. spoke at the conference, the *New York City committee of the SP rejected the proposal to send delegates to this conference!* It is now necessary for all Communists and revolutionaries to utilize this pro-Soviet sentiment of the Socialist workers and establish a united front of labor for the recognition and defense of the USSR. At the conference itself the representatives of the Young Peoples Socialist League raised the issue of the MacDonald atrocities in India, and invited Hillquit, who weeps such bitter tears about the fate of counter-revolutionary engineers in Russia, to say something about the actions of his friend MacDonald whose government is daily slaughtering and torturing workers and peasants in India who are fighting for freedom.

In the C

The Crisis in the C.P.S.U.

After almost a year of continuous inner-Party crisis in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the situation has again reached an acute stage and burst out in the open once more. Unfortunately we are still more or less in the dark as to the exact platform of the opposition since the "discussion" is purely one-sided. It's like the radio: one side speaks, the other can only listen but not answer. Nevertheless it is clear that the recent opposition to the line and regime of the Stalin clique is no longer to be identified with the Bukharin-Rykoff-Tomsky faction of a year or two ago. The intensification of the economic situation, the factional mishandling of the 5-year plan, the false policies in regard to tempo and methods, the demoralizing and chaotic "new turns" and, above all, the absolutely intolerable bureaucratic, and indeed autocratic methods of the Stalin clique, have awakened strong oppositional sentiments among the widest sections of the Communist workers. As a matter of fact it seems absolutely clear that a certain concentration of the opposition movements has taken place. The Lominadze-Schatzkin-Sten opposition which criticized the Stalin line from the left but which concentrated on an attack on the inner-Party regime has now apparently united on the economic and political platform that had long defended by the so-called "right" opposition. The Moscow papers refer to the formation of an "organized right-left block" whose basis is "essentially the right-opportunist platform." The leaders of this block (or "new opposition") are: Syrzov, until recently the head of the RSFSR (the biggest unit of the USSR), Lominadze, member of the CC and secretary of all-Caucasian Schatzkin. Until recently the leading figure in the Russian Youth League and in the YCI, and editor of the *Youth Pravda*, and Sten. Syrzov is known as an old adherent of the Bukharin opposition while the others are of the former "left" opposition. The formation of this block is a clear sign of the present crisis in the party.