

Sam Gompers and Union-Smashers Unite for New Attack on the Russian Soviet Republic

By JAY LOVESTONE.

It looks as if Sam Gompers is under contract, engaged by the biggest business interests of the country, to stab the American working class in the back. "The Grand Old Man" of our trade union movement is working overtime, scab hours, on a scab job, striking mortal blow after blow against the workers and in the interests of the bosses.

At the Portland convention Mr. Gompers and his stripe vied in the disgraceful orgy of slander and villification of the first Workers' and Farmers' Republic. Now, Wall Street's Chief of Staff in the labor movement is up to something new! At the eleventh hour, before the opening of Congress, Gompers joined a pack of the country's most vicious strikebreakers and arrogant open-shoppers in a fierce attack against the recognition of the Soviet Government by the United States. Among the other union-labelled enemies of labor, that is, those who happen to be drawing fancy salaries as supposed organizers of the trade unions, are such moss-backed reactionary labor leaders as Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, oft called the Clown Prince of the Federation; Timothy Shea, who was president of the Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen when that organization was ditch black; William English Walling, once the sworn enemy of the American Federation of Labor and millionaire, ex-Socialist, who has become the dean of the lick-spittles of the labor-lieutenants of capital; and Chester Wright, who once used to starve as editor of the Socialist New York Call, but who is

now living on the fat of the land and being wined and dined in the New Willard at Washington and the swellest hotels and bankers' palaces at New York as the most blue-eyed "anti-red" baiter in the country.

National Civic Federation Scared to Death.

Since Gompers did his neat little job for the labor-haters at the Portland convention thru his steam-rolling off the map the proposal to recognize the Soviet Government of Russia, the movement for Russian recognition has grown by leaps and bounds. As the writer pointed out recently in *The Worker*, the movement for American recognition of the Russian republic has become so strong that the Coolidge clique has been forced to rely on a plan to send a commission to Russia in order to stave off the consequences of an open struggle against it. The other day the Chicago Journal of Commerce openly admitted that the Administration was planning definitely to send over such a commission to Russia in order to find out the possibilities for the resumption of normal relations between Russia and the United States.

Driven to desperation by this move and terrified by the pro-Soviet Russian avalanche that is impending, the National Civic Federation issued "an open letter" to Senators King, Ladd, Brookhart and Wheeler, former Secretary of the Interior Flake, Congressman Frear, Bishop Blake and Bishop Nuelson, all advocates of Soviet recognition, to desist from their "nefarious" campaign of working for the restoration of normal relations between the Soviet and

American governments. The Civic Federation, one of the bitterest enemies of organized labor in the country, appears to be more disturbed than ever at what Congress may do regarding the Russian question.

Die-Hard Open-Shoppers Join Gompers in Cowardly Sally.

It is interesting to note that Gompers is day by day in every way getting himself into "safer" company. Perhaps he is afraid of the Communists in the labor unions since he wielded the big club of democracy in robbing William F. Dunne of his seat at the convention. At any rate, Gompers was never before in such respectable labor-hating company than in this latest anti-Russian onslaught.

Among those who kept Gompers company in signing the "open letter," pretending to plead with the Senators, Congressmen and Bishops, were such vicious foes of the organized labor movement as Alton B. Parker, President of the National Civic Federation; Darwin P. Kingsley, President of the New York Life Insurance Company; V. Everett Macy, Director of the American Tube and Stamping Co.; John H. Hammond, Chairman of the Federal Coal Fact Fixing Commission, which has recently held that the Miners' Union is "inexpedient"; Joseph H. Choate, Jr., millionaire corporation lawyer; Cleveland H. Dodge and Walter H. Douglas, of the Phelps Dodge Corporation, which was responsible for the outrageous deportation of workers at Bisbee, Arizona, a few years ago; Finley J. Shepard, Vice-President of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, one of the most aggressive union-smashing roads in the country; and F. W. S. Stark, Vice-President

of the Hercules Powder Co., one of the most powerful concerns of its kind in the world and a member in high standing in the international munition trust and armor ring.

A complete analysis of the financial and industrial connections of those whose signatures are attached to the Eleventh Commandment—"Thou Shalt Not Recognize Soviet Russia"—handed down by Gompers and his National Civic Federation of Strikebreakers affords a myriad of enemies of every form of labor organization. Picking at random eighteen of these renowned union-busters with whom the president of the A. F. of L. is now sleeping publicly in one political bed, we find that these men hold a total of 143 directorships and offices in corporations divided as follows: 29 railroads, 25 banks, 25 manufacturing companies, 117 commercial concerns, 17 public utility corporations, 14 mining companies, 14 insurance firms, and 5 employers' associations.

All of these corporations are among the biggest of their kind. Five of them are engaged in manufacturing articles especially needed for waging war. Of the thirty-nine New York banking and insurance companies above analyzed almost all have lent money to the Czar with which to finance pogroms, keep the Russian masses in ignorance and abjection, and drive them into internal wars. Every one of the chosen eighteen has his office either on Wall Street or within a stone's throw from Wall Street.

Ridiculous Charges Repeated.

The diatribe against the First Workers' and Farmers' Government

in the world bristles with lies, misrepresentations and nonsense.

First of all, an underhanded attempt is made to belound the whole issue by saying that such members of the Communist International as Radek and Zinoviev are for the successful raising of \$100,000 by the American Communists of the Workers Party for a daily paper. Then follows the outrageous lie, which Chester Wright recently wrote under the name of Ellis Searles in the exploded six-cylinder anti-red exposure, to the effect that Zinoviev ordered bombing and armed insurrection in the 1922 mine strike. On the heels of this crimson fairy tale comes an outburst of moral indignation against the "scandalous and open attempts of the Soviets to bribe American citizens with concessions." And last but not least, this excursion into the realms of assinnity concludes with a report of an interview Senator King is supposed to have had with Trotsky in which the latter speaking of Russian-American relations is reported to have said in a jocular way "and by our navy aid a revolution in the United States!" Apparently the very oceans and their beds are turning red in the much over-strained eyes of the "Grand Old Pilot" of the floundering Gompers regime. Soon we will be told that Soviet submarines will have New York City at their mercy! We wonder how Gompers succeeded in selling such plain unvarnished buncombe to men in such high standing in the business world. Perhaps, after all, President Gompers has been in the selling game even longer than we believed him to be.