

"The Whole World Is Relieved"

By Jay Lovestone

FROM every avenue and alley of capitalist politics and finance a sigh of relief came as a result of the end of the British general strike.

Coolidge is grateful. Washington is breathing easier. Hoover, who keeps his hands on the pulse of the flow of blood-dollars from all corners of the world, to Wall Street, says: "The whole world is relieved and glad that a settlement has been reached." Gary exclaims: "I am delighted that the general strike in Great Britain has been called off."

And when Hoover is glad and Gary delighted, what more proof do we want that that "the whole world is relieved?"

But the inexorable laws of capitalist development seem to be playing very unpleasant and menacing pranks with the gentlemen at the throttle of the imperialist engine driving towards a smashup, towards what they call "the dismal abyss of social revolution."

More Serious Difficulties Arise.

No sooner did the international financiers and industrialists heave a sigh of relief at the temporary slowing up of a dangerously and swiftly developing crisis in one country, than, like the Hydra in the days of old, new forces arise to let hellish devastation loose in other countries where the current of revolution was long ago supposed to have been dead.

It is instructive rather than surprising that on the very day Gary was delighted at British capitalism getting a new breath of life, the Luther (Locarno) cabinet fell in Germany, a deeply-rooted, vast monarchist plot, sharply anti-Dawes plan in character, was uncovered. Only the most purblind can see a German crisis in the farce for a "compromise flag." The collapse of Luther, the issue over the colors of the German flag—by themselves—are relatively unimportant. These incidents are only symptoms and symbols of the deepening of a gigantic crisis in Germany. The forces of capitalist reaction are feverishly at work for a restoration of the German monarchy.

What more arrant arrogance, what more invidious insolence, what more brazen boldness—short of the actual re-establishment of the Hohenzollern dynasty—could the imperialist Junker clique show then their move for the restoration of the monarchical colors in the national flag?

Who is there who does not know that the German working class will fight to the last drop of blood against any and all attempts of Horthyfication of Germany? And what guarantee have the international bourgeoisie, when once the German proletariat again takes up arms, that their trusted

social-democratic lieutenants will be able to mislead and betray the workers away from the road of social revolution as they did when Kaiserism was chased out for the first time? "Compromise flag," or what not—extinguish one flareup or another—Germany continues to be for capitalist Europe a magazine loaded with the most infernal explosives.

Scarcely have the echoes of the calling off of the British general strike died down when right outside of Warsaw—the redoubtable outpost of Anglo-French capitalist reaction—several of the most reliable regiments of the Polish army went on strike against the Witos government. What Wall Street seer will now volunteer to serve as the trumpet thru which the imperialists will announce that Polish capitalism has succeeded in exterminating all possibilities for the development of a revolutionary movement in Poland?

Europe Not In Good Shape.

We hope Messrs. Gary and Hoover will forgive and not forget us when we ask them how delighted and glad they are at such prospects of peace and stability in Germany and Poland? Indeed, while basking in the sunlight of Washington's "profound satisfaction and relief" at the British strike truce as the harbinger of peace and prosperity for all Europe and United States, we are reminded of the following picture of Europe just made public by the National City Bank:

"Altho there is good reason to believe that on the whole Europe makes some progress in recovering each year, the process is slow and the year from the spring of 1925 to the spring of 1926 has been generally disappointing. With three or four exceptions, European countries have not made the advance hoped for."

Yes—the whole world of the Coolidges, the Garys and the Hoovers may be relieved at the conclusion of the British general strike—but even the short period which the strike has lasted is a deadly blow at capitalist stability and darkens the already dark industrial situation in Europe.

Results of the General Strike.

It is yet too early to draw up the balance sheet of the effects of the British general strike on the international class struggle. At present we may thus briefly summarize the situation resulting from the general strike:

1. The proudest and most powerful of bourgeois governments has been forced to retreat to some extent temporarily at least before the organized British workers.

2. The general strike came not because of but despite of the reactionary leadership of the Thomas and Mac-

Donald type. It was only the overwhelming mass pressure of the rank and file of the British working class that forced the hands of Thomas and company.

3. The splendid solidarity shown by the British workers coupled with the partial success the strike brot, despite the unpardonable behavior of some of the leaders, will inspire the British workers with more confidence, with greater class pride, and will cause the proletarian movement on the whole to go leftward.

4. The magnificent display of international solidarity, particularly by the

workers of the Soviet union, will have an invigorating effect on the labor movement of all countries.

5. The British coal and general economic crisis has not been settled in the least. The economic basis of the general strike and the coal miners' sad plight exists today as intact as it was before. The ugly mood of the British miners at the terms of the "settlement" are only signs of the more bitter class struggles that are in the making in Great Britain.

6. The capitalist class and the proletariat the world over have learned much from the historic general

strike. Among many other things the bourgeoisie have learned to be more careful before locking horns with the workers on such long fronts, and also how to set up a more effective national strikebreaking apparatus. The workers have been given excellent lessons in the role played by their reactionary leaders in the need for and value of class solidarity, in the fraud, hypocrisy and deadly menace of capitalist constitutionalism.

Let the world of Coolidge, Gary and Hoover Co. be relieved at the condition of Europe and the results of the British general strike.

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