

To the Workers and Peasants of the Pacific Area

Manifesto of the Shanghai—"Second Section" of the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Conference)

FELLOW WORKERS: The delegates assembled in Shanghai at the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Conference draw the attention of the workers and peasants of all countries around the Pacific to the dangerous situation caused by the Chinese militarists seizing the Chinese Eastern Railway. This railway is of great strategic importance to Soviet Russia. It is an international railway which connects Soviet territory at two important points of the boundary of the Workers' and Peasants' Republic and Manchuria. It is the direct route from Europe to the Soviet port of Vladivostok.

From 1918 to 1920 inclusive, the armed forces of almost every imperialist nation occupied Vladivostok and invaded Siberia, including the forces of Britain, U. S. A. and Japan. They tried to crush the Russian Revolution in conjunction with other armies which were operating on many fronts in Russia. But the Russian workers and peasants armed themselves and fought off these invaders—they defeated them decisively.

As a result of the victory of the Russian workers and peasants over these imperialist forces and counter-revolutionary Russian white guard armies, the various nationalities within the old Czarist Empire obtained national autonomy. The nationalities entered freely into the Soviet Union in accordance with decisions of the All-Russian Congress of Soviets subscribed to by delegates from these now autonomous nationalities. This included the Far Eastern Republic which was created, and which is now governed by the workers and peasants.

All these autonomous units now constitute the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Politically and economically all are united and

freely accept democratic centralization and control of their interests. Every means of strengthening the Soviet Union and defending every front on the Soviet borders is decided by collective decisions of every Soviet Republic.

Behind this border exists one-sixth of the world which is very rich in natural resources. The autonomous Soviet Republics or nationalities cannot be exploited by the imperialists. They stand as a world example of the free cooperation of many small nationalities for the common interests of all, free and unhampered by imperialist exploitation. The very existence of the Soviet Union therefore stands as the challenge to imperialist powers, and imperialism is weakened to the extent that Socialist economy is developed within the Soviet Republics. Therefore the imperialists never cease their intrigues and attacks on every front of the Soviet border, from the Baltic to the Pacific, and preparations for further attacks are always being developed.

FRIEND AND ALLY OF ALL OPPRESSED

Not only has the Russian Revolution freed the minorities within the Soviet Union, but the Soviet Government is a friend of all oppressed colonial and semi-colonial peoples. Their diplomacy and tactics are based on weakening imperialism and assisting and defending the weak nations and helping them in their struggle for independence. The industrial and political organizations of the Soviet workers and peasants also make international fighting alliances with the organized workers' and peasants' organizations in every country.

In accordance with this policy the Soviet

Union relinquished to China all special privileges, territorial, economic and political. Concessions, consular courts and jurisdictional rights were all given up which were obtained with Czarist gunboats and bayonets. In fact the Soviet Union is the front line of the struggle of the oppressed peoples and the world proletariat against the exploiting imperialists and their allies, such as Chiang Kai-shek, etc.

This international railway, the C. E. R., which the Soviet Union did not plan or construct, was designed and controlled entirely by the Czarists before the revolution. But it is a railroad that economically, politically and militarily can now be used by the enemies of the workers and peasants to attack the U. S. S. R. But notwithstanding this fact the Soviet Union signed a treaty in 1924 to relinquish fifty per cent of the management to the Chinese in accordance with the avowed policy which led to the renunciation of all Czarist special rights and privileges; provision was made in the Treaty for giving the railway to China.

The Soviet Union must safeguard the revolution which has enabled the Soviet workers to obtain the seven-hour day, social benefits, pensions, annual holidays, etc. and has given full use of the land to the peasants and driven out the landlords.

AN ATTACK BY IMPERIALISM

Since this 1924 Treaty was signed the Chinese National Revolution has been betrayed by the vacillating bourgeoisie and the militarist cliques. They have become more and more the puppets and tools of the imperialist powers. It is under the instructions of imperialists the Chinese counter-revolutionaries raided Soviet Consulates, murdered Consular officials at Canton, arrested thousands of Soviet citizens and have violated the 1924 Treaty and seized the Chinese Eastern Railway.

By these attacks each imperialist power agrees to harass and prepare further attacks upon the U. S. S. R. Simultaneously with this attack against the only workers' and peasants' State, the Chinese militarists at-

tempt to wipe out the reforms and workers' privileges established by pressure being brought to bear upon the Chinese by the Soviet management, which included the eight-hour day, insurance benefits, etc.

By this violation of treaties signed with the Soviet workers' and peasants' government do the imperialists aim to strengthen China? Emphatically No! The imperialists are only united on one point in policy—the attack on the U. S. S. R. as the vanguard of the world proletariat and the oppressed peoples. They all have conflicting interests in China and while intensively preparing to make war on each other they all hope to obtain greater privileges while the cliques and traitors to China are occupied with doing the dirty work for the very powers who enslave the Chinese peoples.

Japan strengthens her military forces in Manchuria, extends her influence and tightens her grip on Northern China. Britain and Japan conspire together and separately with the different militarists, and inspire militarist wars to keep China divided. The motive of each of these two powers is to strengthen their own special interests.

The agents of American imperialists have influence with the Nanking clique and urge them to attack the U. S. S. R. Their interests being opposite to England and Japan, they hope to assist the Nanking clique to draw Northern China under their influence, thereby simultaneously weakening Chang Hsueh-liang, the protege of Japan and strengthening the relative position of U. S. imperialism. Thus while all imperialist powers utilize Chinese counter-revolutionaries to attack the U. S. S. R. they are all at the same time actuated by their desire to extend and deepen their exploitation of the Chinese workers and peasants.

TO THE DEFENSE OF THE U. S. S. R.

Therefore this section of the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Conference, composed of delegates from China, Japan, Philippines, Java, Sumatra, Malay Peninsula, in the name of the militant organized toiling masses of the Pacific area, call upon the workers and peas-

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Down with the Kuomintang executioners
of the Chinese workers and peasants!

Down with war on the Soviet Union!

Down with all imperialists and their traitorous allies who prepare intervention against the Workers' and Peasants' State!

Down with preparations for imperialist war which will be centered in the Pacific!

Long live unity of workers and peasants!

Long live the struggles for national independence under the leadership of the workers and peasants!

Long live the Soviet Union!

Presidium, Second Section, Second Pan-Pacific Trade Union Conference.

Shanghai, September, 1929.

