Petrograd, Jan. 30 [1918].— John Reed, Russian correspondent of the New York Call, has been appointed consul general at New York City by the Bolshevik government. This was announced today at Smolny Institute, headquarters of the Lenin-Trotsky administration.

John Reed, whose appointment as consul-general to the United States from Russia has just been announced, is one of the most brilliant of the younger group of American journalists. Reed is just under 30 years of age, and from his graduation at Harvard to the present time has been active, not only in his profession, but wherever there has been a battle going on between the oppressed and the oppressors. Reed has openly championed the cause of those struggling for better conditions. His activity in the cause of the Paterson silk mill strike, where he was arrested by the police tools of the employers, is remembered by all soldiers of the common good in this country.

He was on the staff of the Metropolitan Magazine at the outbreak of the war. Going to the scene of the titanic struggle in Europe, his portrayal of the most bloody tragedy ever staged by the world’s masters was that of one moved by immense sympathy for the human race in misery.

Shortly after his return to the United States came the news of the Russian Revolution. His experience in that country while its people were fighting under the command of the tsar enabled him to sense at once that this revolution was to be something different than a mere revolt against the tsar. That out of it would grow a real people’s revolution—a complete turning over.

He knew that he would not be able to tell the whole truth through the ordinary newspaper or magazine channels, and it was the truth that he wanted to send out of Russia. He made arrangements to send a series of articles to The Masses and to supply what news could be gotten out to The Call.

Reed left here in the latter part of the summer of 1917, and arrived in Petrograd in time to
witness the fall of the Kerensky regime and the
triumph of the people's revolution, led by the Bol-
sheviki, in November.

He managed to get out but two dispatches
through this paper, one of which, delivered many
weeks after it was sent, contained the first real story
of the downfall of the group dominated by Ker-
ensky and the entrance of Lenin and Trotsky upon
the scene as representing a government of the
workers and peasants.

In the meantime he had been indicted with
other editors of The Masses in the federal court of
this city for an article which he wrote, and The
Masses published, dealing with conscription. When
he heard of this indictment he sent home word
that he would come home and face it and he was
expected here some time in March [1918].

The magazine articles which he wrote from
Russia, and which are still being received, are to
be published exclusively in The Liberator, under
the editorship of Max Eastman. The first number
of this magazine will appear on Lincoln's birth-
day, February 12. Under these circumstances,
Reed's appearance as the consular representative
of Russia to this country is a dramatic entrance
that only times like the present could have made
possible.