SOVIET POLICY PROVOKES LAUGH

Element of Humor in Interpretation of Neutrality by Russ Government.

A PUZZLING PARADOX

Germany Not Getting Much Out of Revolution-Torn Neighbor.

(By David Lawrence.)
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WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—There is an element of humor in the attitude which the bolshevik government in Russia has decided to adopt toward the allies. Neutrality, it seems, when scrupulously interpreted under such topsy-turvy conditions as exist in Russia today, demands a declaration of a state of war against the allies as well as Germany.

Not being able to maintain relations of absolute peace with the central powers, the hair-splitting international lawyers of the soviet government have determined that true impartiality calls for the adoption of the same policy toward the others of the belligerents.

The soviet policy is a puzzling paradox. Acting Secretary Frank L. Polk, of the department of state, read today from a batch of cablegrams describing the situation in Moscow eight days ago. Premier Lenine first declared in a speech at an official public gathering of the soviet that a state of war existed between the Russian republic and the allies. The allied consuls who had been left behind by the diplomatic representatives of the entente promptly went to the bolshevik foreign office to get an explanation. They asked Foreign Minister Tcherin if Lenine's speech was to be constructed as a declaration of war. The foreign minister naively replied that it need not be so understood and that it was a "state of defense" rather than a state of war and the soviet government desired to continue its relations with the allied powers as it did with Germany, "under similar circumstances."

Soviets Are Anxious.

The consuls reserved their comment and asked that his statement be made public. Evidently they are awaiting an answer before replying. Our own officials here hardly know what to make of the soviet policy. It is quite probable that the soviets are anxious by their action to demonstrate to Germany that they have not silently acquiesced in the steps which the entente are taking in co-operation with the Czecho-Slovaks to penetrate Russian territory.

But the news from many sides would seem to indicate that the declarations of policy from the soviet are far more high-sounding than practical and that the bolshevik movement is daily losing cohesion.

Allied troops for instance, landed at Onega and while the bolshevik authorities asked for explanations the people welcomed the entente who captured the island batteries at the mouth of the river and the entrance to the harbor on Aug. 2. Allied airplanes then circled over Archangel, dropping propaganda material whereupon the frightened bolshevik evacuated, sailing upstream in houseboats.

The British, French and American consuls were arrested by Caucasian cavalry who had arrived to aid the bolsheviki, but who promptly on discovering the lay of the land set up a successful counter revolution. They claimed that the consuls had been arrested in the first instance as a protection, and they were quickly released. The consuls, however, had taken no chances, burning the code books as soon as the cavalry arrived. When the allied troops finally entered the city they were greeted by the blowing of whistles, cheers and flowers.

No time was lost by the people in organizing a movement which will cooperate with other council and state officials in other parts of Russia in forming a national government.

National Government Begun.

A proclamation of the organization of such a government was issued at Archangel and is being spread throughout Russia. It calls for the appointment of a commander-in-chief of Russian forces, the arrest of soviet officials, selection of commissions to re-establish state and municipal government and judicial tribunals and the restoration of the freedom of the press, conscience, meeting and speech. The co-operation of labor unions and workmen's organizations is sought, but it is aimed to denationalize financial and industrial institutions.

The new government is evidently friendly to the allies, but it would not make much headway—it would not even dare to show its head if the people were not amicably disposed toward the United States and the entente is making it clear by propaganda that the purpose is not to impair the freedom of the Russian people, but to help them make secure the liberties for which they have so long been struggling.

It was to be expected that Germany would try to interpose difficulties in the path of the allies and the speech of Lenine is being construed as a direct consequence of the proposal by the United States and Japan to render aid to the Czecho-Slovaks. On behalf of the soviet it is argued, that with Germany so near Moscow, Lenine has no alternative but to follow the behest of the Berlin foreign office unless he wishes to be swept from power by German troops.

Germany's Hands Full.

The same line of reasoning would make it logical for Lenine to fall in with the allies whenever the latter appears in sufficient force to protect him and his followers against Germany. But the obstacles which the Lenine-Trotzky outfit have been placing in the road of the allied diplomatic, military and consular representatives together with the free rein given the Germans on occasions, when the Russian soviet might have had allied protection if they had but said the word, has not left a very favorable impression here, and if the bolsheviki go down in the melee which is growing in intensity in Russia there will not be many tears shed in these parts.

The reports out of Russia come in belated and often garbled form, but enough is coming out to show that Germany is having her hands full and that she is not getting as much out of her revolution-torn neighbor as she expected. It is not too much to hope, therefore, that as the fortunes of the allies become better on the western front support of the entente operations in Russia will come in leaps and bounds from the Russian people who will recognize in the allied forces the nucleus of armies who have entered Russia, not as Germany did, "Under similar circumstances, but to make the new Russian democracy safe from the invasions of the enemies of liberty."

WHY HAIR FALLS OUT

Dandruff causes a feverish irritation of the scalp, the hair roots shrink, loosen and then the hair comes out fast. To stop falling hair at once and rid the scalp of every particle of dandruff, get a small bottle of Danderine a. any drug store for a few cents, pour a little in your hand and rub well into the scalp. After several applications all dandruff disappears and the hair stops coming out.—(Adv.)

YOUR SICK CHILD IS CONSTIPATED! LOOK AT TONGUE

Hurry' Mother! Remove poisons from little stomach, liver, bowels.

Give "California Syrup of Figs" if cross, bilious or feverish.

No matter what ails your child, a gentle, thorough laxative should always be the first treatment given.

If your little one is out-of-sorts, half-sick, isn't resting, eating and acting naturally—look, Mother! see if tongue is coated. This is a sure sign that its little stomach, liver and bowels are clogged with waste. When cross, irritable, feverish, stomach sour, breath bad or has stomach ache, diarrhoea, sore throat, full of cold, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours all the constipated poison, undigested food and sour bile gently moves out of its little bowels without griping, and you have a well, playful child again.

Mothers can rest easily after giving this harmless "fruit laxative," because it never fails to cleanse the little one's liver and bowels and sweeten the stomach and they dearly love its pleasant taste. Full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups printed on each bottle.

Beware of counterfeit fig syrup. Ask your druggist for a bottle of "California Syrup of Figs;" then see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Co."—(Adv.)

AUTO THIEVES MADE BIG HAUL

Wholesale Operations — Dismantled Cars Then Mixed Parts to Camouflage.

SIX CARS ARE RECOVERED

Five Arrests Made—More Expected—Changed Motor Numbers.

Since Saturday afternoon Detectives Robert Peace and Joe Paradiso and Patrolman J. T. Roberson, with the assistance of Postman Charles F. Morrison, have made five arrests in connection with local automobile thefts and recovered six Ford machines. About two months ago Chief W. H. Hackett assigned Peace and Paradiso to the special task of breaking up automobile stealing.

The men thus far taken into custody are R. K. Love, C. T. Love, W. W. McJunkin, D. H. McJunkin and Geo. F. Love. They are all said to be residents of Alton Park, and George Love is reputed to be worth many thousands of dollars. A charge of receiving and concealing stolen goods is registered against him on the police blotter, while the other defendants are charged with grand larceny. They have all arranged bond and employed Attorney Eugene H. Williams to represent them. Their cases are scheduled to come up in police court Saturday.

Some of the parts of automobiles already recovered by the officers, as a result of an investigation of several weeks, have been identified by Jo Anderson, R. B. Davenport, Chattanooga Railway and Light company and Chrles F. Morrison. Mr. Morrison gave the officers their first clue and has ably asisted them in working up the cases. He has been a mail carrier here for many years and is a well known band leader.

It will take a few days to assemble the parts of the machines now at police headquarters so that they can be identified, and people who have had cars stolen are requested to look the parts over.

Other developments that may prove of a sensational nature are expected.

So cleverely was the switching of parts on the stolen automobiles carried out that a Ford roadster was made into a five-passenger machine and vice versa. Motor numbers were found to have been removed and other numbers stamped on the motors. Two motors had the same number, which may prove an unfortunate circumstance, as identification will be difficult.

For instance, one machine, after it had been "doctored," is at police headquarters all "dolled up" in a 1917 model one-man top, a 1916 model motor, 1914 steering gear, 1915 model chassis, 1917 model fenders and 1916 model body. The front seat is an old one and the rear seat new. The rear door has been overhauled.

A horn from the Davenport automobile is on one of the cars at headquarters. The top, starter and storage battery from Charles Morrison's Ford have been identified. The bed of this particular car was found in a barn. The top of Jo Anderson's machine is at headquarters and the body was found on a car at Chickamauga, Ga. The Chicamauga Ford had been purchased by a well-known merchant named Brotherton. He stated to one of the plain clothes men that he gave a check of $425 for the car, but was willing to lose check and all in order to have the thief apprehended. The gears from the railway and light company's automobile were found on Brotherton's machine. Mr. Anderson and Detective Peace journeyed to the Georgia town Sunday to look at the Ford there.

OTHERS CONDEMN THE COUNTY JAIL

Sheriff Bush Takes Position Exposure of Filthy Condition Personal "Roast."

The filthy conditions which exist at the Hamilton county jail have caused much comment among the citizens of Chattanooga since the matter was brought before the public in The News of Saturday. It is understood that the jail officials are preparing to better these conditions and that they already have stated they are going to equip a number of the cells with new mattresses.

In speaking of the general insanitary conditions at the jail, Dr. C. P. Knight, of the United States public health service, stated that he accompanied Col. Abbott, of the army post, through the jail several weeks ago and that he and the colonel found conditions practically the same as were reported in The News. Dr. Knight stated that while a place of this kind may not be kept in first-class condition all around, it could certainly be kept clean and sanitary.

The federal official said that it is not a hard matter to get rid of vermin, but that by using the proper fumigation it should be an easy matter. The federal official explained the procedure that is followed in the up-to-date jails throughout the country. He said that when a prisoner is brought to the jail covered with insects the officials take no risk in spreading these all over the jail, but that the prisoner's clothes are immediately taken away from him and sterilized, and if he is infested with lice his head and body are treated with kerosene and gasoline.

When asked to give out a statement Saturday concerning the conditions at the jail, Sheriff "Nick" Bush expressed the opinion that the reporter had come to him for the purpose of giving him a "roast" through the paper. He said that he was going to be in office only fifteen days longer and that it looked as though the newspapers would let him alone until he got out. He was informed that this was not the object of the paper, but that several complaints had been made at the office recently concerning the conditions at the jail, which is a public building. He pointed to the room which he is using for his office and informed the reporter that everything in there was clean. The reporter told him that the prisoners didn't stay in his office. Then the sheriff wanted to know the nature of the complaints. He was told that reliable people had complained of the insects on the walls and of insufficient ventilation in the jail. He then remarked that it was hard to keep roaches and water bugs away and that he expected the people of Chattanooga were bothered with these in their homes just the same as the inmates at the jail were.

Several complaints were made at The News office, not only from Ebbie Miles, but outsiders, before the matter was taken up and investigated. A reporter then went through the building and saw the conditions set forth in the woman's letter, and the report was verified by a federal health official who has been working in the jail for the past six months.

There are girls behind the jail bars who state that they have not had as much as a blanket to sleep on since they have been in jail. The jailer replied to this that if they would ask for something to sleep on they would get it. However, people wonder that when human beings are put behind iron bars they should either have to sleep on a cement floor or wait at the bars for an opportunity to ask for something to sleep on.

Since the erection of the jail various reports have been made concerning the conditions there. The building is new and, in the opinion of federal health officials and those who have been through it, it could easily be kept in a sanitary condition. About a year ago the grand jury went through the jail and condemned the insanitary conditions. The report also scored the food served to the inmates. This condition seems to have been corrected, as the prisoners report the food served is nothing to complain of in a jail. However, they are compelled to eat surrounded by water bugs, roaches, dirt and filth.

WILSON SPEAKS OUT REGARDING VARDAMAN

Jackson, Miss., Aug. 12.—Myrom McNeil, a prominent attorney of Hazlehurst, Miss., Saturday made public a letter from President Wilson in reply to one Mr. McNeil wrote the president regarding Senator James K. Vardaman's candidacy for re-election to the United States senate:

The president's letter follows.

"Replying to your letter of July 23 let me say that it is always with the utmost hesitation that I venture to express an opinion about candidates for election, either to the senate or to the house, because I feel that it is not from any point of view my privilege to suggest to the voters of a state what their action shall be. But upon questions of fact I am at liberty to speak. You call my attention to certain statements made on behalf of Senator Vardaman, in which an effort is made to create the impression that I would not regard the return of Senator Vardaman to the senate as a verdict against the administration. Such statements are calculated to put a very false face upon Senator Vardaman's candidacy. Senator Vardaman was conspicuous among the democrats in the senate for his opposition to the administration. If the voters of Mississippi should again choose him to represent them, I not only have no right to object; I would have no right in any way to criticise them.

But I should be obliged to accept their action as a condemnation of my administration, and it is only right that they should know this before they act. Very truly yours, WOODROW WILSON."

DEATH OF NOBLE CHRISTIAN WOMAN

Mrs. Florence Garner Watkins aged forty-eight, one of Chattanooga's best known women and a resident here for more than a quarter of a century, died Monday morning at 3:02 o'clock at her home on Lookout mountain after an illness of thirteen months. She was active in local war activities and Red Cross work and she became ill while doing her bit for the Red Cross.

Surviving her are her husband, two sons, Garner, of Nashville, and Ewing, who is with the marines at Paris Island S. C.; a daughter, Miss Florence, and her mother.

Her mother, Mrs. Ewing Garner, of Springfield, and relatives were here when the end came, and Garner Watkins will reach the city today.

Funeral services will be held from the residence Wednesday morning at 10:30, with Rev. Kinsolving, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, officiating. Mrs. Watkins was a devoted member of this church. The interment will take place in Forest Hills cemetery, with L. L. Fischer, O. K. LeBron, J. P. Hoskins, Warren Henderson, D. L. Henderson and John C. Vance acting as pallbearers.

Kill Dandruff With Cuticura

All druggists: Soap 25, Ointment 25 and 50, Talcum 25. Sample each free of "Cuticura, Dept. 2, Boston."

CONSTANT OPPONENT OF ADMINISTRATION

President Wilson Opposes Re-Election of Senator Hardwick, of Georgia,

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 12.—A letter from President Wilson to Clark Howell, democratic national committeeman from Georgia, was made public last night in which the president expressed his views concerning the senatorial race in this state. The communication was a reply to a letter written to Mr. Wilson by Mr. Howell on July 24, asking the president to "take the people of the state into your confidence and give them the benefit of your view of the situation."

The president's letter, under date of Aug. 7, follows:

"Dear Mr. Howell—Allow me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 24, which has been supplemented by a number of others from prominent citizens of Georgia bearing the same inquiry as to the attitude of the national administration with regard to the pending contest for the United States senatorship in Georgia. Your own letter, I observe, is addressed to me by you in your capacity as a member of the national democratic committee, and I assume that it is your feeling that it is proper for me to answer the question in the interest of the party as a national unit.

I must say, however, that I have been surprised by the question, because I had supposed that the people of Georgia fully understood my attitude. I have never undertaken and I never would presume to undertake to dictate to the voters of any state the choice they should make, but when my views have been sought by those who seemed to have a right to seek them I have not hesitated to give them. * * *

"Senator Hardwick has been a constant and active opponent of my administration. Mr. William J. Harris has consistently and actively supported it. In my opinion the obvious thing for all those to do who are jealous of the reputation of the party and success of the government in the present crisis is to combine in the support of Mr. Harris. Sincerely yours,

"WOODROW WILSON."

In addition to William J. Harris, who was formerly chairman of the federal trade commission, William Schley Howard, representative in congress from the Fifth Georgia district, and John R. Cooper, a Macon lawyer, are in the race for the seat now occupied by Thomas Hardwick in the United States senate.

ALIEN CONCERN TAKEN OVER BY GOVERNMENT

American Lava Company Will Be Managed by Board of Local Business Men.

Unless P. J. Kruesi, present manager of the American Lava company of this city, will immediately take action and secure control of the stock of that company, the plant will be put under the direction of a board of directors composed of some of the most prominent business men in Chattanooga who have been nominated by A. Mitchell Palmer, enemy alien property custodian, according to orders received from that official following an investigation in which it was brought out that the controlling stock of the corporation is held by Germans now in Germany.

It is understood that the investigation was instigated by Mr. Kruesi, who is considered to be a patriotic American. Mr. Kruesi is now in Washington, where he went on account of this matter. He will probably return to the city Tuesday or Wednesday.

The matter has created quite a bit of sensation in the city, and Mr. Kruesi's numerous friends sincerely hope that he will be able to gain control. In case he is not able to secure the necessary amount of stock to get the control of the industry, the corporation will go into the hands of the enemy alien property custodian and the following board will have its direction in charge: Richard Hardy, of the Dixie Portland Cement company; Gus Meehan, of the Ross-Meehan Foundry company; Z. C. Patten, Jr., of the Chattanooga Trust company; T. R. Preston, president of the Hamilton National Bank, and Frank A. Underwood, cashier of the Hamilton Bank and Trust company.

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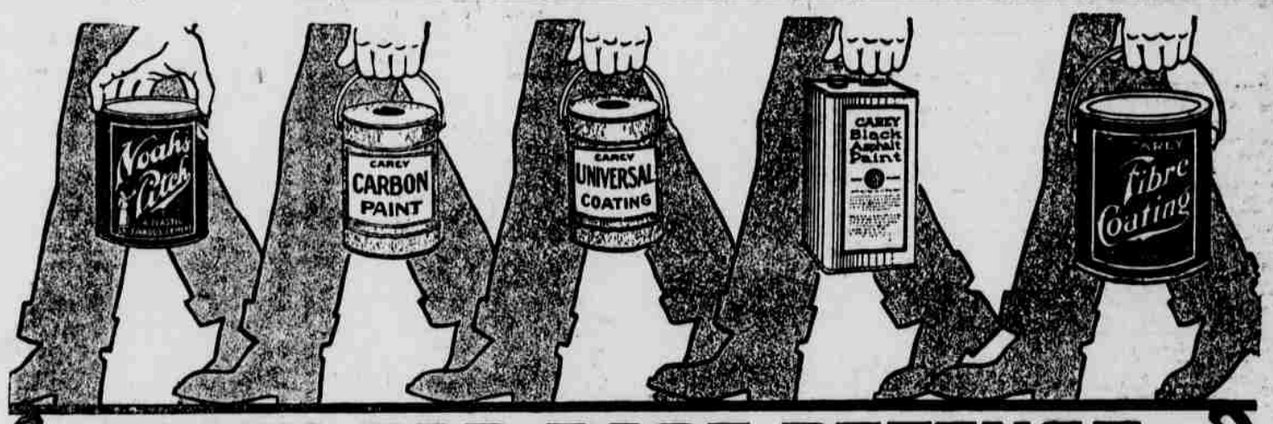

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