

British Labor Moves Again

As this issue goes to press, the long-awaited strike of a million British miners begins, and the eyes of the militant labor world are on them. In defiance of the Lloyd George government and the whole organized capitalist class of Britain; spurning, even, the eleventh-hour advice of Smillie to retreat, the miners have stepped boldly forward into a situation that is bound to have far-reaching consequences.

An associated press despatch speaks of the apprehension felt at the possibility of the "triple alliance" coming back to life through a sympathetic strike of the transport and railroad workers. The New York Times sees a close connection of the action of the miners with the rapid development of the communist movement in the mining areas. This paper draws some comfort from their theory that "the public is against the strike." But the working class of England, well organized, conscious of its power and determined to use it, needs no support from any outside source within the country.

The overwhelming majority in favor of strike action—635,098 to 181,428, sets at rest all doubts of the solidarity and determination of the miners. The Times sees "revolutionary designs" in their refusal to accept any of the proposals of the government. And they have good reason to; because defiance of the government is a long step toward repudiation of the government.

Federal Prisons

During the war, it was stated that the government was too busy to occupy itself with the prison question. Since then, despite one scandal after the other, things were supposed to have changed for the better.

New comes another "leak" about the federal prison at Baltimore. A federal Inspector of Prisons, investigated the Maryland Penitentiary and found that the guards BLACKJACKED and BEAT the prisoners.

To be sure, Mr. Palmer did not want this information to reach the outside world, but "news" has a way of getting out. In addition to beating the prisoners in a most brutal fashion, it was stated that one cell house was crowded with desperate criminals, which is contrary to regulations.

While the war was on, prisoners at Leavenworth and Alcatraz learned what it meant to be

a federal prisoner. They learned what it meant to be strung up by the writs, to be manacled to the bars, to be put into vermin-infested dungeons reached by neither air nor light. They experienced being drenched to the skin with a hose and turned out into the night air to be chilled to the bone, then to be returned to the cell and made to lie on the cold cement floor without any covering. They were put through torture that made several of them insane. During the war the government pretended to have an excuse. But now?

It has been established beyond doubt that the government is determined to make it especially "hot" for political prisoners. To be sure, anybody with a little understanding would realize that POLITICAL PRISONERS CANNOT BE BROKEN. But government officials are too dense to grasp that.

Why?

"What strange power has Lenin? Why does every adversary, one by one, fall before him? Why do they all underguess him? Why do all European governments falter and waver between courses, losing their hold on half "their" populations, till Lenin can say to Lloyd George, "I command more men in England than you command"? Why is he the leader of the only nation that can dare to order its population into war?

"The answer is that Lenin is a scientist in a scientific world. Capitalism by its nature must follow its mad militarists into combat with Soviet Russia, like months to a flame". Robert Minor in The Liberator.

The pamphlet

Nicolai Lenin

by G. Zinovieff

which is a history of the life of Lenin answers many questions like the above. It is intensely interesting, instructive and educational. All the world is asking—what about Lenin? This pamphlet helps to answer that timely question in an understanding manner.

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