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Established 1831



"Finnish Revolt"

(By Santeri Nourteva)

On January 27 a new general strike was proclaimed because the old government obstinately procrastinated the solution of the food question and took new steps to trench oligarchy, tried to disarm the workers' militia and discriminatingly prosecuted those participating in the general strike of November.

The last straw was the passage of a measure establishing the "White Guard," hertofore a voluntary organization composed of hired thugs, young men belonging to wealthy classes and special regiments drilled in Germany during the war, as the regular police of the country. They were armed mostly with rifles and ammunition furnished by German junkers and Swedish reactionaries. The leader, Gen. Mannerheim, is a reactionary Russian militarist deposed by the new Russian government. Other military leaders are mainly young men belonging to the above mentioned German drilled regiments.

Bourgeois Deposed

The general strike immediately deposed the bourgeoisie government which fled to Northern Finland, where the drilling grounds and ammunition stores of the White Guard were located. The new government, elected by organized labor, has at its head Kullervo Manner, the former speaker of Finland's Parliament and the chairman of the Finnish Socialist Party. Other members are the foreign minister, Yrjo Sirola, who three years ago was active in America as a lecturer and writer for the Finnish Socialist Federation, Minister of Food and Supplies Oskar Tokji, the prime minister of the first Finnish government established since the Russian revolution, Minister of Internal Affairs Eero Naapalainen, erstwhile president of the Federation of Labor Unions, Minister of Finance Dr. Edward

Gylling, a well known professor of political economy in Finland's university.

The Socialist government rapidly seized the densely populated southern part of Finland, including all industrial and intellectual centers.

Gen. Mannerheim's forces held the workers at bay in northern Finland as long as the reserve of arms and ammunition could suffice. He sent frantic appeals for arms and armed intervention to Swedish and German capitalists.

Swedish Workers Frustrate Move Sweden's reactionaries would have been glad to seize the opportunity, yet Swedish workers prevented them from aiding the overthrown government. At the behest of the Swedish Socialists, the Swedish government seized a big shipment of arms in Stockholm intended for the White Guard, and the workers of Sweden's biggest gun factory in Vesteras threatened strike if arms were to be manufactured for the White Guard. Now the only hope of Finnish capitalists is German intervention, and they have formally asked for a German invasion of Finland.

The new government is in full accord with the Russian workers' government, and to some extent it has had use of Russian military detachments, especially the artillery and fleet. There is no doubt about the victory of Finnish workers unless plans of German intervention materialize. Germany, however, will hesitate before she undertakes this adventure.

The organized struggle of the Finnish Socialists has the full support of German radical Socialists and an interventionist adventure in Finland by Germany would undoubtedly cause many complications.

It, therefore, seems improbable that Finnish capitalists, who, on

one hand are playing friends with the allies and on the other shamelessly plot with German autocracy, will be able to materialize their hopes. The latest reports indicate that the workers' militia, which is popularly called the Red Guard, is in full control of the situation, and rapidly re-establishing organized conditions.

Stories of atrocities committed by the Red Guard, as, for example, one circulated by news agencies telling of a massacre of "all capitalists over eight years old" and another one telling of the shooting of 150 defenseless youths in Tammerfors are pure inventions. There has been blood shed to a certain extent, and there may have been single instances of excesses of uncontrollable elements, which are to be found in all modern societies, and who in such times of revolutionary confusion may succeed in breaking order. Yet Finland's Socialist movement is one of the best organized in the world and knows how to overcome disorder from every source.

The most important question before the Finnish government is the food question, the country being on the verge of starvation. Forty millions of pounds of various cereals have been bought in America and are now lying in American ports awaiting shipment.

The vast majority of Finland's population is unqualifiedly behind the new government. It is opposed by big land owners and capitalists in general. Finland, however, is a country the population of which is 90 per cent proletarian and mercilessly exploited by the wealthy classes.

The Finnish working people send their greetings to the American people, expecting a sympathetic attitude and support in their great struggle for industrial and political freedom.

THE CO-OP WHOLESALE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

It is Owned by State, Interstate, and Local Co-operatives

ST. PAUL.—The principal activity of the American Rochdale Union so far has been the organization of the Co-operative Wholesale Society of America. Individual local co-operatives have been more or less successful but have always been at the mercy of unfriendly wholesalers. The wholesalers' opposition of course is fostered by retailers who are not able to compete with successful co-operatives, and who boycott wholesalers that serve co-operatives. In fact co-operation was only put on a safe and profitable basis in European Coun-

tries after the wholesale co-operatives had been organized. In England for instance, the final success of co-operatives dates from 1863, the date of the establishment of the Co-operative Wholesale Society which has developed an enormous business having done over \$1,000,000,000 worth of business during the past year according to reports received from England recently.

The Co-operative Wholesale Society of America is doing a general wholesale agency business for its affiliated State, Interstate and local co-operatives, and is buying many lines at 13 to 15 per cent below the regular wholesale prices. A produce department is maintained which has been handling potatoes and all kinds of vegetables, fruit poultry veal, eggs, cream, butter, hay, straw, in fact everything produced by the farmer. Through the various affiliated co-operatives much of this produce is already sold to the ultimate consumer without the interposition of a single middleman concern that is not owned co-operatively. The main bulk of the profits of the Wholesale will be pro-rated back to the subordinate co-operatives and by them pro-rated back to the original producers and ultimate consumers. The ultimate consumers aside from the farmers themselves in the Co-operative Wholesale Society System for this farm produce are now being reached through the workingmen in Great Falls, Montana, a city of 40,000 inhabitants, largely workingmen, who own their own co-operative store which is affiliated with the system, the coal miners at Windham who own a co-operative store there in co-operation with the farmers at that point, and the consumers of Butte, the great copper metropolis, where arrangements are being made to serve them through the Equity Co-operative Association of Montana, in the Puget Sound territory through the \$30,000 Co-operative Market just established at Seattle by the trade Unions of that city, the Co-operative Store in Everett and several other stores affiliated with the System through the Puget Sound Co-operative Wholesale; and through a co-operative retail market just opened in Saint Paul, Minn., selling direct to workingmen and others in that city. So we have the nucleus of a complete national co-operative system.

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No. 17226. SUMMONS.

In the Superior Court of the State of Washington in and for the County of Snohomish.

Marie Pederson, plaintiff, vs. Theodore Pederson, defendant. The State of Washington, to Theodore Pederson, the above-named defendant:

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty (60) days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit, the 21st day of March, 1918, exclusive of said date, and defend the above entitled action in the court aforesaid, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff, and serve a copy of your answer on the undersigned attorney for plaintiff at his address below stated, and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you in accordance with the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of the above entitled court.

The object of this action is to secure a divorce from the defendant on the grounds set forth in the complaint; and to secure the custody of a minor child of the parties.

PETER HUSBY, Attorney for Plaintiff. Office and P. O. Address: 1612 California St., Everett, Wash.

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