

Great Achievements of the Communist International and Red International of Labor Union

NOTE.—In this space each week "The Worker" publishes a new installment of a detailed report on the proceedings of the enlarged executive committee meeting of the Communist International. This week's article takes up the question of the achievements during the last six months of the Communist International and the Red International of Labor Unions. Next week we shall show how Soviet Russia's growing power is a menace to British Imperialism. This week's installment follows:

In the last six months, the Communist International and the Red Labor International of Unions have made immense strides. On May 20, the Second and the Two and One-half Internationals united. The revolutionary fire and understanding of the two organizations is a thing of the past. There was a time when Kautsky considered the Labor Party of Great Britain lacking too much in socialism to be admitted to the

Second International. Today, the Labor Party is the leader in the new organization—and Kautsky plays second fiddle. The Russian Mensheviks, formerly the left wing of the Two and One-half International, are in the right wing of the new International. Only a small group, led by Ledebour, has understood the treachery of the Two and One-half International and refuses to co-operate in the new organization. But they are impotent.

The policy of the United Front has been a tactical success for the Communist movement. Some of the comrades do not understand the tactic and its method. They ask: Is the United Front a manoeuvre or is it a real desire to co-operate with the social-democratic and non-partisan workers? The question cannot be put in this form. We surely want to co-operate with the social-democratic and non-partisan workers, for events and conditions demand that the workers get together as a whole in the struggle against complete

degradation. But the United Front does not signify organic unity with non-Communists, but co-operation in action. In France and Germany, we have achieved splendid results with this slogan.

In the early period of the United Front, we tried to reach the workers over the heads of their leaders. We find that that method is unsuccessful. Hence, we appeal to the leaders, being fully conscious, however that Scheidemann and Renaudel will not co-operate with us. But the workers will realize the treachery of their leaders and our willingness and desire to co-operate and will bring about the United Front with us despite their leaders.

Dangers of the United Front.

It should not be assumed that the United Front tactic is not fraught with dangers: so is the revolutionary struggle, but we must face these dangers and overcome them.

Trotsky once said that the United Front presents the menace of our parties becoming superficial, or de-

generating. These dangers are ever present—and yet the tactic is correct, as events have proven.

The United Front achieved in Berlin between the Russian Transport Workers' Union, and the International Transport Workers' Federation demonstrates that our policy bears fruit and the workers are brought closer together for action against the imminence of war, of fascism and the economic offensive of the capitalists. In this co-operation the Communists take the lead, because they alone have a program; are willing to accept the struggle with all its consequences.

The World Political Situation.

Since the Fourth Congress, there have been four events of international significance: the agreement between America and Great Britain regarding the payment of the British debt; the occupation of the Ruhr; the Lausanne Conference, and the liquidation of the decisions of the Washington Disarmament Conference in the Far East.

The British government realizes the necessity of finding support in the West for its imperialist designs. The rivalry between England and France is such that today France is reaching out for the hegemony of Europe, while England is forced into a secondary position. The struggle is on. The United States, on the other hand, feels no compulsion to interfere in Europe. Prosperity reigns in America, and altho the American farmers demand a market for their products, and the billions stored up in the bank vaults seek investment, still America is occupied more in seeking a foothold in the East than in Europe.

In making the settlement with America, Baldwin caused a shiver to run down the spine of every Englishman, as Lloyd George wrote, when he learned that for sixty years England will have to pay \$150,000,000 a year to the United States. The United States, on the other hand, kept a free hand to secure the assistance of France in case of a conflict between America and Great Britain. Hence, at the Washington Conference America did

not insist on the limitation of aerial armament. As a consequence, France is at the head in this department, thereby threatening the whole defense organization of Great Britain.

England has tried to make up for the loss of prestige and power by the offer of support to Germany at a decisive moment. England believed that France would enmesh herself to such an extent in the Ruhr that she would come out broken and defeated.

Poincare, on the other hand, believed that he would be able to subvert the German industrialists to the will of France without any great resistance. But both opinions have proven to be wrong. France has not broken on the wall of the Ruhr, nor has the German bourgeoisie succumbed without a struggle.

On the contrary, the German bourgeoisie has been able to continue the struggle by putting the whole burden on the backs of the German workers. With the aid of the German government, speculation has been rife on the German market, whereby the mark at the beginning of the Ruhr

occupation stood at 7,000 to the dollar was driven down to 99,000 to the dollar. This meant tremendous suffering for the German proletariat, colossal gains for Stinnes.

The government began a reduction of wages, the German bourgeoisie offered to pay 500,000,000 gold marks yearly provided the eight-hour day, the transfer of the railways to private enterprise, and several privileges were granted them. The fate of the German bourgeoisie has been sealed. And in their desperation they have let the dogs of war loose against the Communists.

The failure of England to use the influence and power of France in the Ruhr, induced her to turn France against Russia. The same day that Curzon sent his note to St. Petersburg, he sent a note to Germany recommending that Germany pay the reparation sum demanded by France. What was the method in this scheme? England thought that by having Germany over to the mercies of France, she would be able to instigate France against Soviet Russia.