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# Long Live the Soviet Republic!

## An Editorial in *The Milwaukee Leader*, July 19, 1919 †

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In common with the workers of Britain, France, and Italy, the Socialists of the United States vigorously protest against allied intervention in Russia and insist that the troops be withdrawn.

In the three above mentioned countries, great demonstrations and strikes will take place tomorrow and Monday to give emphasis to the protest of the workers — and to show the powers-that-be what labor may do in the way of tying up industry if their protest is not heeded.

In our own country, unfortunately, the union movement, except in spots, lags far behind the Socialist movement, instead of marching alongside, as the union movements of the European countries do. As a whole, it does not have the international spirit, as the Socialist movement of America has. Strikes are, therefore, out of the question here.

But all freedom loving people, and the workers in particular, can raise their voices in protest against the international outrage of armed intervention and aid to Kolchak and the other tsarist reactionaries.

The use of military or economic aid to these reactionaries is totally against the avowals of President Wilson regarding Russia. It is also completely antagonistic to the principles and ideals which he has so often set forth in his speeches and messages.

Nevertheless, we are not at a loss to know why he practices the opposite of what he preaches — and why the other allied statesmen are with him in hostility to Soviet Russia.

It is because Soviet Russia is a Socialist nation.

That statement contains all the reasons boiled

down into one.

The countries that give aid to Kolchak are countries in which the private ownership of the industries is the system in vogue. We call it capitalism for short. These statesmen believe in that system. They are the political representatives of the beneficiaries of that system. They want to do everything in their power to preserve that system.

Should the Socialist government of Russia be allowed to succeed and become permanent, its good example to the workers of the other countries would be such that these workers would establish Socialism in their countries, too.

Therefore, the Soviet government of Russia must be destroyed — so that no such dangerous example — dangerous to the profits of the plutocrats — will be permitted to stand before the eyes of the workers of the world.

That is the long and short of allied intervention in behalf of the unspeakable Kolchak.

And that is the situation which the workers of Britain, France, Italy, and other countries are deliberately and consciously facing when they stage these demonstrations and insist upon the withdrawal of aid to the reactionaries.

We trust that the workers of all the other countries of Europe and the rest of the civilized world are likewise voicing their protest. The enlightened workers of the world are united in this demand. Let their voices ring so loud that the demand will be heeded.

Long live the Soviet Republic of Russia!

†- *The Milwaukee Leader* was the Socialist daily newspaper founded and edited by Victor L. Berger. This editorial was not written by Berger, however, since he was in the midst of legal proceedings for alleged violation of the so-called Espionage Act. This editorial was written by one of three of the paper's Associate Editors — E.H. Thomas, John M. Work, or Oscar Ameringer.

*Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport.*

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