

ENLIST FOR THE WAR AGAINST THE JINGOS

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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

THE GREAT DOUBLE ATTACK. We want every reader of The American Socialist to take note of the double attack on capitalism, and its offspring militarism, outlined on this page. Distribute the special two-page issue. Then hustle for subs.

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The Prospect For Peace

By EUGENE V. DEBS.

Written for the Scripps League, containing 117 newspapers, in answer to the request for an expression of opinion as to the prospect for peace.

FROM THE point of view of the working class, the chief sufferers in this as in every war, the most rapidly increasing and spreading symptom of the international re-adjustment which the underlying economic forces are bringing about, as well as of the fundamental changes which are being wrought in our industrial and political institutions.

The manifesto above referred to has been received with enthusiasm by the workers of all of the belligerent nations and the sentiment in favor of its acceptance and of the program of procedure it lays down is spreading rapidly in labor circles in the nations at war as well as in those at peace.

AS TO the terms upon which peace is to be restored these will no doubt be determined mainly by the status of the several belligerent powers when the war is ended.

The matter of the conquered provinces will no doubt figure largely in the peace negotiations and the way to settle that in accordance with the higher principles of civilized nations is to allow the people of each province in dispute to decide for themselves by popular vote what nation they desire to be annexed to, or to remain, if they prefer, independent sovereignties.

Permanent peace, however, will never prevail until national industrial despotism has been supplanted by international industrial democracy.

Whereas, the people of the United States, while neutral, cannot be indifferent to the fratricidal conflict which is devastating Europe; and Whereas, the longer the war is continued the more does the code of physical force replace every other code of human conduct; and Whereas, the war has brought about a state of fear in the minds of millions of American people, which menaces the normal development of this nation, and beclouds the real issues which confront our generation by the artificial issue of "preparedness" against an invisible and unnamable enemy;

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled that the President of the United States be and he is hereby called upon to convene a congress of neutral nations, which shall offer mediation to the belligerents, and which shall sit in continuous session until the termination of the war; and Be it further resolved, that it is the judgment of the Senate and House of Representatives that a durable peace can be established if the following principles shall be made the basis of discussion in said congress of neutral nations:

First—Evacuation of invaded territory. Second—Liberation of oppressed nationalities. Third—Plebiscite by the populations of Alsace-Lorraine, Finland and Poland as to their allegiance or independence. Fourth—Removal of the political and civic disabilities of the Jewish people, wherever such disabilities exist. Fifth—Freedom of the seas. Sixth—Gradual concerted disarmament. Seventh—Establishment of an international court of arbitration, with the commercial boycott as a means of punishment for disobedience.

NAME ADDRESS

WAIT AWHILE, MR. CONGRESSMAN.

THERE IS an election this year, Mr. President, Mr. Congressman, Mr. Senator. Before you vote for building battleships and forts and equipping an army you had better find out what the people say about it. And find out what they REALLY want. Don't every party declare for preparedness and then call that a test. Let there be a place on every ballot, apart and above the partisan ticket, reading: "For a greatly increased army and navy—yes. Against a greatly increased army and navy—no."

Are you willing to do this, Mr. Representative of the people? If you are not, do you deserve reelection? Wait awhile, Mr. Congressman. Call for instruction from your real bosses, and tell your old time bosses, the capitalists, to go to hell.

You Can Help Now!

WASHINGTON.—The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives has begun to hear from the country on Meyer London's peace resolution. Letters and petitions urging the Committee to favorably report this resolution, after the public hearing to be given it on February 24, are arriving from all directions.

Arrangements for the hearing are being completed. Not only will the Socialist Party National Executive Committee be represented, in the person of Morris Hillquit of New York and James H. Maurer, of Pennsylvania, but the Central Federated Union of New York City, together with other labor organizations, will have spokesmen. The Anti-Preparedness League, the Woman's Peace Party, the United Peace Societies, and the National Workman's Committee on Jewish Rights, will also be heard in support of the resolution.

The Socialist press can help the resolution by giving editorial notice that the time to write to this Committee is TODAY.

Henry I. Van Kol, chairman of the Socialist delegation in the upper house of the Dutch Parliament, has cabled Comrade London: "We favor your resolution. Already discussed by Dutch Socialists in Parliament. Please cable results of your endeavor."

Other messages from the Continent are anticipated. If the British censorship shall not prevent their transmission. It is understood that the German Socialist minority, if not the majority, shares the view that the offer of mediation by the combined neutral governments would bring the war to a speedy close.

HELP CIRCULATE THE PETITION AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE URGING FAVORABLE ACTION ON LONDON'S PEACE MEASURE.

Our Courageous Alarmists

By JOSEPH E. COHEN. THE MEN who are scared to death over a possible war for America have the courage of their convictions. They do not hesitate to tell us they are scared. Nor do they neglect to inform us how badly they are frightened. Especially since they are becoming more frightened right along. What they asked for a few months ago, in the way of military and naval preparation, is not a fair sized fraction of what they now need.

Then we are asked to go in for a navy big enough to meet the sea forces of all other nations. That is a fairly large order, and would make it appear that some American jingoes might as well allow themselves to be scared to death right now instead of asking for protection enough to guarantee a war to the death of the whole nation later on. But what of that?

THEN AGAIN, the numbers to make our standing army have been

multiplying by leaps and bounds until nothing less than a million and a quarter men will ease the hearts of the timid souls who think this country could always whip any under the sun. And to put the finishing touches upon our condition of doubtfulness in the whole matter, President Wilson has been speaking his mind.

What he has said is enough. First, he disclaimed any authority for the notion that our country could be invaded. That would seem to dispense with the necessity of having an army for defense. At least none larger than we now have.

But what of the navy? This would of course depend upon the direction from which danger is expected and how soon that danger is to arise. The President says we are in imminent danger. Neither he, so he says, nor anyone else can tell what the hour may bring forth. Any moment something might happen which would bring us to war.

Now, if that is the sort of danger the President is thinking about, then he needs no larger navy. It takes years to build ships. No amount of orders given to shipbuilders next month or the month after that will bring us warships that we could use tomorrow or the day after. Shipbuilders have not yet developed this sort of skill.

But if danger lurks in every moment of today, and if it will require our navy to defend us, then we should have some idea as to which nation we are to defend ourselves against. It must be either England or Germany. Like the Kaiser, we would have to be told which nation we are to be in trouble with Germany, the Kaiser, simply to furnish news to the American press, will send his fleet out of the Kiel Canal, past the British line, to meet our ships?

THE KAISER refuses to give us any such assurance.

Indeed it is pretty hard for normal people to become excited over the fear that this nation is in danger at this time. We would have to be told which direction danger is coming from and must be met, before we can prepare. We cannot be expected to go out into the street dressed in clothes that prepare us for either summer or winter weather.

Then we should have some hint as to the cause for such danger. It might be we could avoid it. Otherwise we have to spend our time trying to puzzle out these things, instead of stirring ourselves up to such action as will make us prepared.

As it is, about the only people who seem to be awake to the size and certainty of the danger are some ladies of our upper classes. They are already volunteering their names as military headquarters and hospitals. It is doubtful, however, if they could be put to such use successfully, since our enemy could easily acquaint himself with the approach and location of such homes by visiting the popular moving picture plays where such homes are shown.

The ladies are also learning how to give first aid to the injured, and we have no doubt they will put their private yachts at the disposal of the wounded, and give them their personal attention. The ladies are learning quickly how to do away with some of the horror of war and it may be, if our statesmen are farseeing enough to keep this nation out of trouble for a few weeks longer, the care of the wounded will have been elevated to such a fine art that it will be a distinct pleasure for a workingman to fight and fall for his country instead of dropping in some industrial accident.

CONSIDERING how much these ladies of the upper classes are doing for our beloved country, an considerable loss of time which might be spent in social functions, it is to be hoped that if war does come they will be as far from the scene of battle as their class has always been. It should be enough that they prepare us to fight and will be patiently waiting in their homes to receive the wounded. And we shall be under obligation, as patriots, to see to it that we have the care they are ready to bestow upon us. This we shall be able to do only as we keep the battlefield as far away from their homes as possible.

But—we may be at war any hour, as the President says. The reader will therefore have to judge for himself whether this article appears as it was written, a few hours ago, or whether war of it has been removed by the war censor.

Will You Tote Fair?

By LINCOLN PHIFER.

Suppose we workers agree to defend a country and a nation that are not ours.

Suppose we agree to arm ourselves to keep it from being invaded by foreigners.

Suppose we are willing to mortgage our children's lives to save the lives of our fellow men who are our oppressors.

Would you, in such a case, Mr. Wilson, be able to pledge us that you and the capitalists would tote fair with us?

Would you guarantee that our nation would not be invaded by foreign workers to take our jobs and foreign capitalists to take their dividends?

Would you assure the men who would do the fighting that after the war was over they would have jobs and their children never lack for opportunity?

Would you begin fair dealing by giving the women of the nation who would have to bear so many burdens the right to the ballot? Would you begin by ending child labor?

Since the workers must risk and often lose their lives, would you, Mr. Wilson, conscript the railroads, the mills and factories and make the capitalists bear their share?

It is not fair that the workers should risk all and get nothing and that the capitalists should risk nothing and get all. Let us begin by ending profits to anybody from preparation and war.

Would congress make it a law that every congressman who votes for preparedness must enlist as a private in the first army corps that went to the front? If not, why not? Tote fair.

Would congress make it a law that every editor and publisher who writes for preparedness would be compelled to go to the front as a private in the first corps sent out? Tote fair?

Would congress make it a law that so soon as any worker was required to enlist, every stockholder in munition works, railroads or other industries that might profit by war would forfeit his holdings to the nation? Tote fair.

Would congress provide an army in accordance with the constitution, which declares that the right of the people to bear and HOLD arms shall not be impaired? Would a gun and twenty rounds of ammunition be issued to every citizen TO BE KEPT IN HIS HOME?

If the capitalists would be afraid of this kind of an army, the workers have a right to be afraid of any other kind. If the capitalists object to this kind of an army the workers have a right to object to any other kind. Tote fair.

If workers refrain from going to a warring country and thus creating complications, and if workers refrain from shipping war munitions to warring nations, thus creating national enemies, will congress see that capitalists do the same? Tote fair.

Will congress and the president be as jealous of the honor that rises from the fistuffs as they are of the false "honor" of private quarrels for profits in which the people do not participate except in the bleeding? Tote fair.

Will the president be "afraid of the shame" of an exploited working class, of the shame of child labor, of the shame of unemployment, of the shame of warfare and big armament, as he says he is of the shame of being called a coward? Tote fair.

Will the president be as much afraid of the "inadequacy" of a system that fails to provide work for all, that produces the slum, that has made the workers renters and tramps, as he is of the inadequacy of a big stick? Tote fair.

Will the president be so "afraid" he will not express the true character of America that he will submit all questions of vast moment to the vote of the people to decide them? That is the only way to find out what the people really want. Tote fair.

There are five bars to free and open commerce—the strait of Dover, the strait of Gibraltar, the strait of Japan, the Suez canal and Panama canal. Most wars now are over them. Will the president offer Panama to the world, pledged to be open to all peoples always, if the other keys to commerce are so opened, all nations to have an interest in all and to see that they are ever open and unfortified? Tote fair.

Let us know if the master class is to risk nothing and gain all and the working class to risk all and gain nothing. Let us kick out the hogs that are holding up our nation and all nations. Let us get rid of the cause of war. Let us tote fair. Let us be sensible and really honest with ourselves and with others.

Socialist members of the Italian parliament are holding a conference at Bologna with a view to promoting the holding of an international Socialist conference at Berne, Switzerland. Dutch Socialists are bending their energies in the same direction.

104,047

THAT IS the number of copies already ordered of the Special Two-Page Edition of The American Socialist containing the complete speech by our Comrade, Meyer London, in congress, exposing the world-crime of "preparedness", militarism and war. THAT IS GOOD WORK!

But we want to do better. We know that the Socialists of the United States can do much better.

Where did the biggest order up to the present time come from? We'll tell you. It came from Cicero, a suburb of Chicago. The Cicero comrades took 5,000 copies in their efforts to educate the 6,000 voters of their town. There is a municipal campaign just starting in Cicero and the distribution of this special edition was the opening gun.

Comrade Henry J. Hartkop came right down to the office of The American Socialist and got the papers himself.

It will be remembered that the wage slaves of Cicero toil in the great plant of the General Electric Co., and that nearly 1,000 of these serfs of the great power trust lost their lives in the tragic Eastland disaster last summer in the Chicago River. Our comrades intend to capture both Cicero and the power trust and then the workers will not be compelled to use an old hulk of a boat when they go on their pleasure trips. Life will then be a thing of value, so valuable that the nation will even think twice before plunging into war, and then decide to remain at peace.

OUR report this week on the activity in distributing this great two-page issue of The American Socialist is as follows:

THESE TAKE TWO THOUSAND. Two orders for 2,000 each come from Comrade Fred D. Voigt, corresponding-recording secretary of the East Oakland, Cal., local, and from Joseph Baran, Akron, Ohio. OUR ONE THOUSAND ORDERS. The orders for 1,000 copies are especially welcome. We received them this week from E. Sif, Minneapolis, Minn.; Sampson J. Marshall, U.S. Y.; William Baer, Ferrdale, Wash., who writes, "You comrades in the East will be surprised over the wild and woolly wool's election returns this fall"; Robert Sertell, Vineland, N. J.; R. A. Pines, Springfield, Mo.; Dr. Edward O. Foss, Muskegon, Mich.; Dr. M. V. Ball, Warren, Pa.; F. M. Malzahn, Bemidji, Minn.; Thomas Marshall, literature agent of the Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, local, and Thomas Bickie, Parsons, Pa.

COMES BACK FOR MORE. Comrade J. H. Williams, of Fowler, Colo., has come back for another bundle of the two-page edition. He writes: "The bundle of The American Socialist to hand, all 1,000 copies were placed at once in splendid effect, and much gratification for myself. Sold half of them at five cents per copy and wished for 100 more. Oh! Comrades! I'm glad to have something to do to help forward our great cause."

Comrade J. H. Deardorff, of York, Pa., orders 200 copies of the special two-page edition containing the speech of our comrade, Meyer London, in congress, and says: "I hope I can fill up another nice list of subscribers distributing these special copies of The American Socialist."

"It sure is 'O. K.' and Comrade London is right there with the goods!" writes Nathan Jacobson, of Grass Flat, Pa., as he orders 200 copies of the special two-page edition. "I think that he hit the nail on the head and it hurt pretty bad. I do not think they get over it for a long time. But that will not be the only thing they will get on the head to remember and think of for a long time," says D. R. Rupp, of Grand Rapids, Mich., as he orders 40 copies to pass out among the heathen.

Bert Newman, of Okeneo, Okla., orders 100 copies for 1,000 among non-Socialists and even some Socialists. "I want to put a few of my farmer friends reading what our Socialist congressman is doing," says Comrade Otto Johnson, Nickerson, Neb., a farmer tenant. "Who will expect to own a piece of land when the capitalists get control of our government but not before."

Comrade J. F. Gau, of Melrose, Minn., orders 300 copies for "general distribution among 'Hens' Dubs'."

John J. Ritter is an old veteran at the Soldier's Home, in Tennessee. He writes, "I got hold of the Meyer London issue of your paper. It hit me and lots more of the old soldiers exactly. I want a lot of this issue sent to different addresses."

"I wish to make every Socialist voter in Wichita, Kans., a reader of The American Socialist," writes Comrade John Erickson as he orders 500 of the two-page edition.

Charles E. Robinson orders 500 copies which he thinks sufficient to cover the entire town of Lehi, Utah. Are you covering your town? Read this from Comrade S. E. Brees, of Grey Eagle, Minn.: "I am an old, old man, but I love to see the cause of Socialism grow. So please send me 40 cents worth of the special two-page edition, which I will try and place in the hands of the discontented."

Comrade J. H. Eggleston, of Lewisville, Tex., orders 200 copies and writes, "We are giving the jingoes a sandy foundation to stand on down here. Comrades, fire the letters and petitions to your congressmen and senators, as we are doing, against preparedness."

"It's the hot stuff," writes Comrade E. S. Whitmer, of Indiana Harbor, Ind., as he orders 100 copies of the two-page edition. "Meyer London seems to be proving himself worth all the fussing and noise. These trusty old 'war-horses' who fondly speak of it in terms of the almost forgotten past should awaken to this fact. That old spirit of service is reborn in the heart of Youth; in the staunch, virile, young comrades of today."

An apt illustration of this, and one only a few days old, was found among a score of members of the Chicago Young People's Socialist League who answered The American Socialist's call for help. It was not a heroic task they were offered, no, a common ordinary job—stuffing, folding, stamping and addressing all thru an entire holiday afternoon—so that our last great circularization might be accomplished. But it was work for the cause, their own great cause, and that led enough inspiration to their labor.

When those thousands of letters are received by our locals and our hustlers they should be carefully considered. They are not merely form letters scattered broadcast over the land—no, they represent a labor of love, love for a cause deeply planted in the hearts of the Y. P. S. L. members.

They have done their share, will you do yours? They have made the sending of the letters possible, now will you do your bit to turn in the results? The letters told of the plan of The American Socialist to "START THE 1916 CAMPAIGN" and of the building up of the special two-page edition containing Meyer London's complete speech in congress against militarism. It also urged the building up of OUR PAPER for the great struggle this year.

BIG GARMENT STRIKE. By William M. Feigenbaum. (By Telegraph.) New York City.—Sixty-five thousand and garment workers out in greatest strike needle industry has known. Twenty thousand employed in association shops won substantial concessions without strike. Sixty-thousand now out to enforce identical conditions in shops not members of association of manufacturers. Result not in doubt. Solidarity greatest ever known, association workers freely going out for benefit of workers in independent shops. Union will be greatly strengthened and conditions improved as result.

Strike prepared for months; board of arbitration, Brandeis chairman, considering data prepared by union's statistical bureau. Morris Hillquit made great fight and won for union. No disorder, altho police seem to be preparing to stir up strife. Scores of meetings held daily, addressed mainly by local socialists. Altogether, greatest exhibition working class solidarity New York has known, Italians, Jews and others fighting shoulder to shoulder. Story follows.

ORDER BLANK FOR THE Special Two-Page Edition.

THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST, CHICAGO. I want to help OUR CONGRESSMAN, MEYER LONDON in his fight to expose the world-crime of "preparedness", militarism and war. I want to help counteract the effect of President Wilson's recent jingo tour thru the middle west. I am therefore enclosing \$..... to pay for the following:

PLAN No. ONE. .... copies of the special two-page edition containing Meyer London's recent speech in congress to be sent to the address below at the rate of one-quarter of a cent a copy.

PLAN No. TWO. .... copies of the special two-page edition containing Meyer London's recent speech in congress to be sent to the list of names and addresses enclosed in this letter at the rate of one-half cent a copy.

PLAN No. THREE. .... copies of the special two-page edition containing Meyer London's recent speech in congress to be distributed by The American Socialist's volunteers where they will do the most good, or to be sent to a selected list of names prepared by The American Socialist.

NAME ADDRESS CITY STATE

NOTE.—Fill in the above carefully and mail at once.

CUT OUT THE PETITION BELOW AND PASTE IT ON RULED SHEETS OF PAPER, WHEN YOU HAVE FILLED IT OUT SEND IT TO THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, D. C.

We Want Congress To Adopt Rep. Meyer London's Plan To End The War In Europe

LONDON'S RESOLUTION BEFORE BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS IS AS FOLLOWS: of neutral nations, which shall offer mediation to the belligerents, and which shall sit in continuous session until the termination of the war; and Be it further resolved, that it is the judgment of the Senate and House of Representatives that a durable peace can be established if the following principles shall be made the basis of discussion in said congress of neutral nations: First—Evacuation of invaded territory. Second—Liberation of oppressed nationalities. Third—Plebiscite by the populations of Alsace-Lorraine, Finland and Poland as to their allegiance or independence. Fourth—Removal of the political and civic disabilities of the Jewish people, wherever such disabilities exist. Fifth—Freedom of the seas. Sixth—Gradual concerted disarmament. Seventh—Establishment of an international court of arbitration, with the commercial boycott as a means of punishment for disobedience.

NAME ADDRESS











