

SOVIET RUSSIA

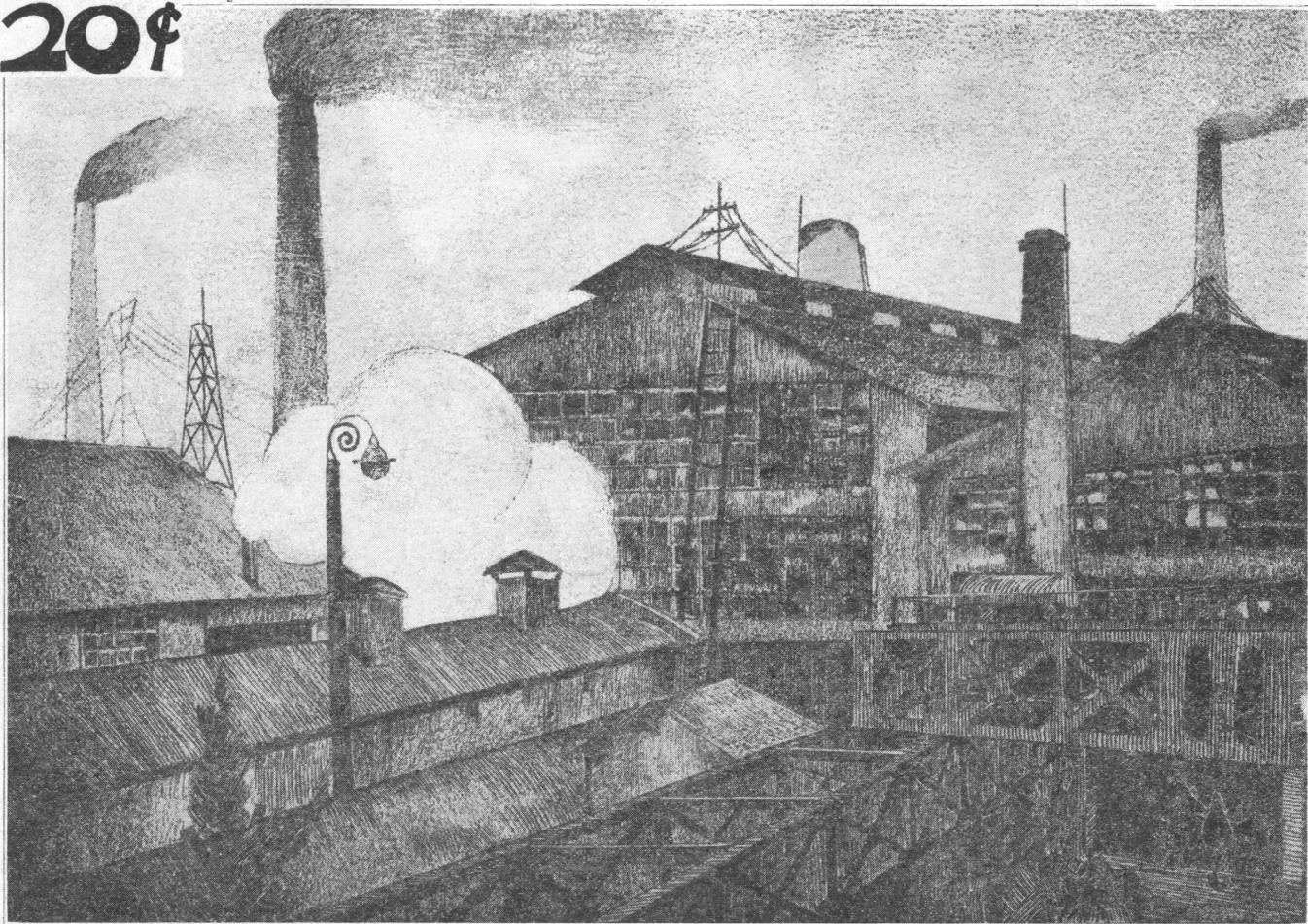
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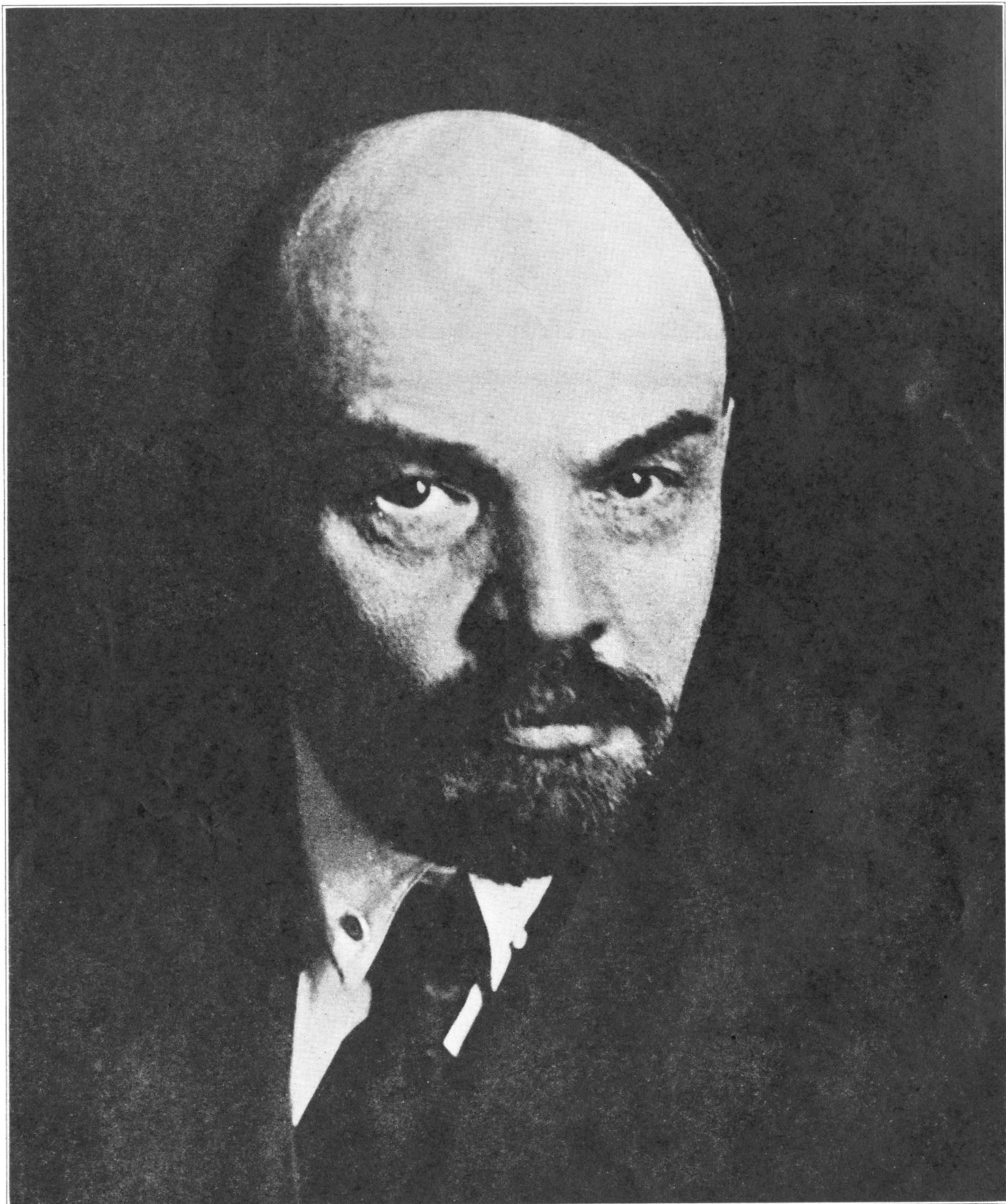
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Russia at Work Building a New World

—Full Page Portrait of Lenin on Page Two—



Born April 10, 1870

H. J. Johnson (Newman)

Died January 21, 1924



Sisters of Lenin at the Bier of their Brother in the Labor Temple of Moscow.



Lenin's body carried through the streets of Moscow from Rail Road Station to Labor Temple.

NIKOLAI LENIN

ON Sunday January 27, new Russia buried its greatest son and leader, Vladimir Ilyich Ulianow, Lenin. Death came upon him unexpectedly, on the 21 of January, and closed a great and useful life.

Lenin's life, work, and achievements closed a chapter in the history of mankind, and opened a new one, for he was one of the world's greatest men. Friends and foes of Lenin agree that he had put an indelible stamp upon present history. And in ages to come, when the great slaughter of the world war will be treated only as an incidental event in history, then the Russian revolution and its leader, Lenin, will still be regarded as the makers of a new era.

Vladimir Ilyich, as Lenin was affectionately called by his comrades, and by the Russian masses, was born on April 10, 1870. Serfdom had been "abolished" in Russia nine years before Lenin's birth, by imperial decree of Alexander II. But this emancipation handed down by "benevolent" autocracy, had proven to be a gift of doubtful quality. The barons retained their estates. And whatever land was given to the "freed" serfs was loaded down by rents and taxes, craftily designed to chain the free peasant more securely to his master, the landlord, than he was ever chained while he was a serf. Indeed Alexander's gift turned out like the wooden horse that the besiegers of devine Troja left behind. And of his "emancipation" could be truthfully said what Laokoon said about the gifts of Greece: Beware of autocracy, but doubly beware of its gifts. This gift paralyzed, for some time, at least, existing revolutionary movements, and, at the same time it forged

new chains for those taken away.

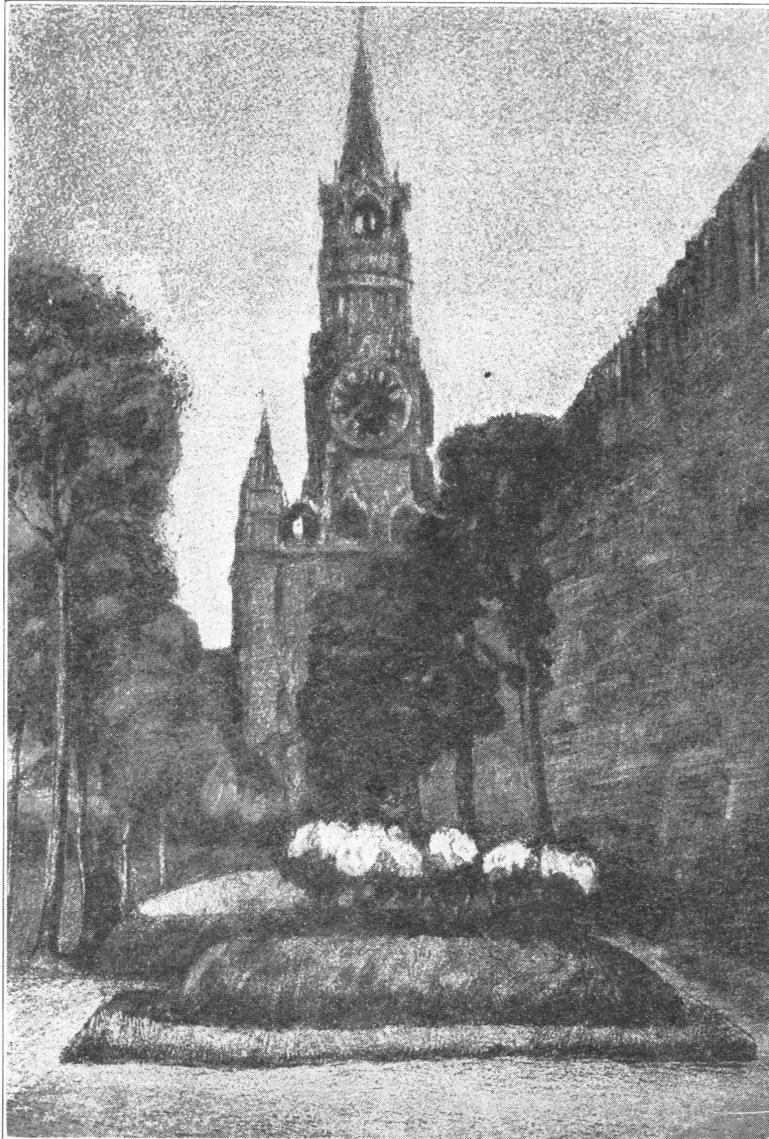
So Lenin grew up in his native city of Simbirsk amidst a people borne down by a form of slavery that the hypocrisy of our time insists calling freedom. The wide awake boy, armed with a great intellect, soon penetrated this hypocrisy and realized the injustice of the existing order.

In his home, (his father was a teacher and later inspector of schools), the boy's mentality was developed by the loving and able guidance of the parents. Together with his brothers and sisters he discussed social problems and there the determination grew upon him to give his service to the cause of freedom.

Just sixteen years old a terrible event made a deep impression on Vladimir Ilyich. His brother Alexander was executed at the fortress of Schluesselburg, by order of Czar Alexander III. He had kept his promise to fight for freedom. The gibbet was his reward. But Vladimir Ilyich was not dismayed; nor was his courage diminished. For freedom he would work, write, fight, with the terrible fate of his brother behind him, with the specter of a gibbet before him.

Vladimir Ilyich attended high school in his native town. The principal of this high school, by a strange chance of fate, was Feodor Kerensky, father of Alexander Kerensky, Lenin's adversary in 1917

From the University of Kazan, Lenin was expelled for socialist propaganda. In 1891 he came to Petrograd to study law and economics. Immediately he threw himself into the work of propaganda for, and teaching of Socialism. But on January 29, 1897 fate overtook him. He was arrested by imperial ukase, and was exiled to



Beneath the Kremlin Wall where Lenin's Body was laid to Rest amidst Hundreds of Martyrs of the Revolution burried there.

Eastern Siberia. In the village of Sushenskoy, his domicile in exile, he worked incessantly to fit himself for his great task. Articles and pamphlets written by him there, first bore the signature which later became the famous name of Vladimir Ilyich: Lenin.

After the expiration of his term he was forbidden to return to any large city, factory town, or college town of Russia. So he went to Switzerland. There, in association with Plekhanoff, Martoff and others he founded and edited "Iskra," (Spark), the first organ of the Social Democratic Party of Russia.

Nadezhda Krupskaya, Lenin's wife, acted in those days as secretary of the party.

The Party had been organized in 1898. At the second congress of the Party in Brussels and London, in 1903, the famous break came which resulted in two parties: the Mensheviks, (Minority) and the Bolsheviks, (majority). Lenin was the leader of the majority, of the Bolsheviks.

Since then this innocent word "Bolsheviks" has been clothed in rage, its pockets stuffed with bombs, daggers and guns, its face decorated with a wild and unkempt beard, and has been let loose by a horde of prostitutes of the pen upon an unsuspecting public.

In the discussions which resulted in that split of the party, and in the discussions that followed the revolution of 1905, Lenin revealed his greatness. He was not a mere philosopher, he was not satisfied with abstract speculations of what is and what ought to be. No. He was a leader of men. How to gain leadership, how and where to lead, those were his problems. He always stood with his feet on terra firma and was never carried away by, nor did he indulge in phrases. And those of his enemies who, like princess Radziwill, accused him of using empty phrases to sway empty heads, do him an injustice against which even an enemy should be immune.

Lenin was personified realism. Neither momentary enthusiasm, nor momentary failure swayed this man from the straight path of the necessary, and the possible.

After the first victory of the workers had transformed the enemy



N. Krupskaya

Lenin's Widow

of revolution against Czarism, Miljukoff, into the leader of the revolution's parliamentary "Kraehwinkler Landsturm," Lenin at once asked the question: what now? What did the workers gain in this revolution? What must be their stand after it.

With his party, the Bolsheviks, inspired by Leninism, trained in Leninism, and led by Lenin he consistently widened the basis of the revolution. He drew larger masses into it. He uncovered the sham character of the February revolution. He led the workers and peasants revolution to its final victory, in November 1917.

But Lenin was not only an able leader. He was a great organizer and administrator. The task of the revolutionary workers was not ended with the taking of power. That power had to be defended against a world of enemies, it had to be used in the building up of a new order.

Lenin helped to solve all these great problems of the revolution. He directed the measures dictated by the necessities of foreign invasion and civil war. And

when the enemy was defeated on all fronts Lenin took the initiative to turn the economic measures that were dictated by the necessities of foreign and civil war back to measures of economic reconstruction, demanded by communist transformation.

During the first years of the revolution Lenin's leadership and influence with his party and the masses was taxed to the utmost. When the workers, in the first flush of victory, came to him to demand immediate expropriation of the industries he calmly asked them: Do you know how to keep your factory supplied with raw materials? Do you know the market for the products of your factory? And when they shamefacedly admitted that they knew nothing

about these things he bade them to go back and first learn what was indispensable for the management of the factories.

But when it turned out that the factories in the hands of the capitalists, the sworn enemies of their revolution, became an important source of strength for the counter-revolution he did not hesitate a minute to order the immediate and unconditional expropriation of all industries, although he knew that that would result in a serious disorganization of the ma-



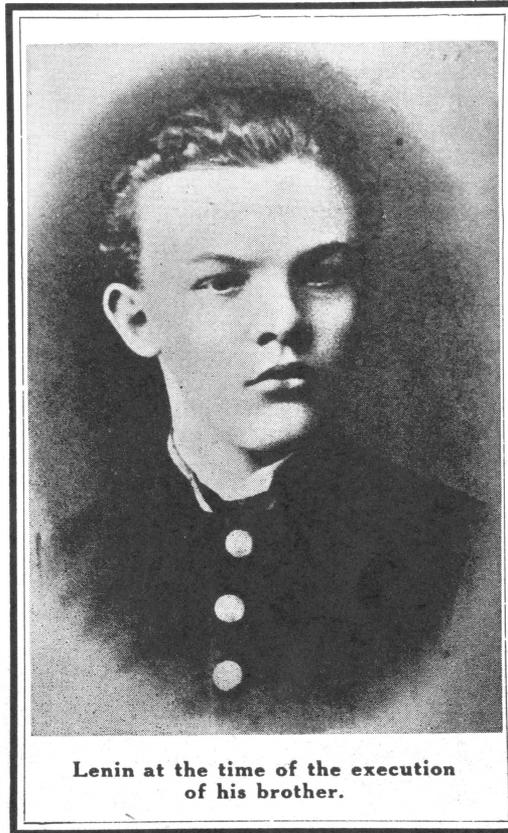
Picture of Krupskaya, Lenin's Widow out of the Records of the Political Police of the Czar

chinery of production of the Republic. He did not even for a moment lose sight of the fact that the economic structure built up during blockade and civil war, was only a makeshift. He refused to make a virtue out of necessity. When the necessity ceased it was easy for him to retreat from the necessary to the desirable. The retreat of the New Economic Policy, the Nep, was not a retreat to prerevolutionary principles, but a retreat to correct revolutionary practice, possible only now, when necessity no longer forced a deviation from the straight road.

After all, the Russian revolution represented two revolutions in one: a bourgeois revolution; and a proletarian revolution. A bourgeois revolution at a time when there was already a well developed modern proletarian class. The proletarian element in the bourgeois revolution pushed the upheaval of February 1917 to its logical conclusion, in November of that year. But with the victory it also took over an inheritance from the bourgeoisie. That inheritance was the development of the productive forces of the country,

Lenin, who was never lost in the flush of the glorious victory, always saw the tremendous tasks of the revolution. He directed the productive energies of the workers and peasants of Russia toward a policy that would at once conclude capitalist development of productive forces and, at the same time, begin communist transformation. Because what hopeful adherents of the old order hailed as the first step leading back to capitalism, is in reality the first effective step toward communism.

Lenin was loved by many millions; He was respected by all. Only the official committee of information, created by Woodrow Wilson at America's entrance into the war, ever attempted seriously to question Lenin's integrity. It did it with the now infamous Sisson documents. But whatever blot Wilson and George Creel tried to put on the name of Lenin, they could not succeed. Lenin's integrity as a man and as



Lenin at the time of the execution of his brother.

a revolutionist, was irreproachable. And while millions mourn the death of Lenin, George Creel in busily engaged in erasing some oil stains from his reputation.

Lenin had infinite faith in the masses. His very success as a leader was built on this faith. Never for a moment did he entertain a thought about the possibility of an eventual defeat of the proletarian revolution. He led the masses. He gave expression to the desires of the masses. He understood the masses. And his proximity to the feelings and aspiration of these masses made him their beloved and trusted leader.

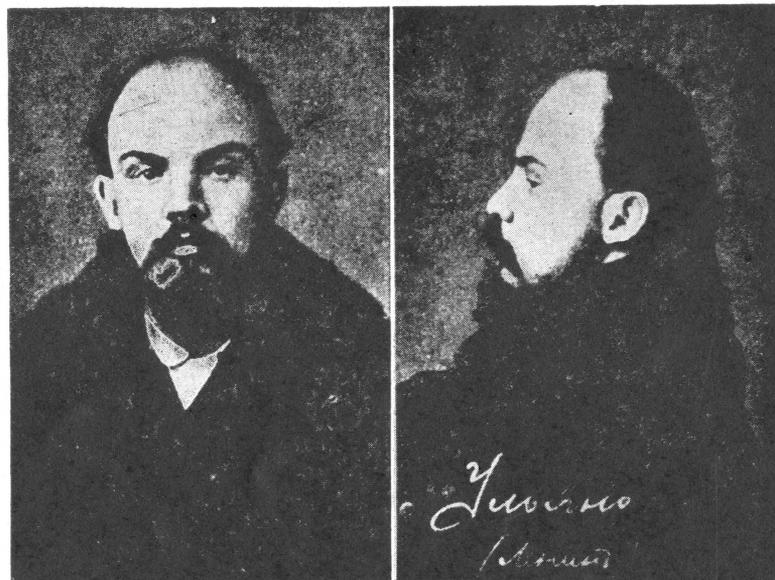
In his faith in the masses really lies the secret of the success of the Soviet Republic. His faith was justified. The enemies of the revolution proclaimed: "Kill Lenin, and the revolution is at an end." But when all the world rose against Russia, when the combined military forces of Germany, England, Japan, France, the United States, and organized counterrevolution from within Russia seriously attacked and threatened the Soviet Republic than the masses of workers and peasants justified

Lenin's faith in them. With their bodies they defended their revolution against a world of enemies. And their eventual victory is the irrefutable proof of the truth that the Russian revolution was the revolt of the masses against the few—and that the Soviet Republic represents the desires and the interests of the masses against the desires and interests of the "democratic" few.

Lenin is dead now. But the structure of Soviet Russia, the construction of which he directed, will live.

He lived long enough to steer the ship of Soviet Russia and the revolution around the dangerous rocks it was bound to encounter in the first stretch of its voyage.

He lived long enough to prove even to his bitterest enemies his greatness and his disinterestedness. Lenin suffered and hungered when suffering and hungering was the lot of the Russian workers and peasants. Lenin worked when only work



Lenin's Picture out of the records of the Political Police of the Czar.

could save Russia. With the gorgeous palace of the old absolutist Czar only a stone's throw away, Lenin lived with his wife in two little rooms adjoining his office. Yes, Lenin struggled and suffered for his convictions. And he suffered not less in the greatest glory of his victory, than he did suffer as the persecuted outlaw of Czarism.

*Lenin's life and work was an example of devotion to principles and to the interests of the oppressed. He never deviated from the chosen road. The sternness with which he even treated his nearest friends if they permitted themselves such a deviation was not the outgrowth of an inhuman fanaticism, as enemies claim, but was the result of intellectual honesty, and a loyalty to a chosen cause. These qualities are not recognized and appreciated in an age which even commercialize truth and loyalty. But they will be the basis of individual and social relation in a society which had in Lenin its foremost proponent and builder.

Lenin is dead. But his teachings live. His ideas live. Soviet Russia is the monument that will remind his bitterest enemies, who would like to forget his name, that he lived and lead and fought.



The Building within the Wall of the Kremlin houses the offices of the "Sovnarcom" (council of Peoples commissars.) Lenin and his wife occupied two little rooms, adjoining the offices, as living quarters.

There is no danger that the workers of the world will ever forget him.



Lenin's body laying in State in House of Union in Moscow.

OUR DUTY CALLS

BY MAX BEDACHT

AS winter progresses the misery of the workers of Germany, and their families, increases. Unemployment is growing. Famine stalks around the country selecting its victims. And it selects its victims exclusively from among that class whose only source of income is work.

In this hour of need the German Working Class appeals to the Workers and poor farmers of all lands to divide the little they have with their suffering German brothers to save them.

Our duty demands to answer this call, to answer it at once, and to answer it effectively.

The present misery of the Workers of Germany is not caused by an ordinary famine. It is caused by the utter collapse of the economic system upon which the German empire was built. This system is bankrupt. Its assets are far below its liabilities. But, like the fraudulent bankrupt capitalism is, it saves its own riches out of the mess and cheats the workers out of their hire, out of their lives.

To this general bankruptcy comes the particular situation prevailing in Germany. The ruling forces of Germany hope that what really is a collapse of their system, is only a momentary crisis. They want to conceal, and at the same time overcome this "crisis." It may cost the lives of tens of thousands of workers. But what of it. Better starve the working class than to turn over power to them. Better tens of thousands of workers lose their lives, and hundreds of thousands of workers children languish into an early grave than we to lose our fortunes. That is the policy of the ruling powers of Germany.

But like the cheaters and hypocrites they are, they do not come out openly with their real plans and motives. They hide behind a smokescreen of constitutionality and republicanism. And some of their allies even appeal to the world for funds to be used in "saving" the German constitution, by aggravating the misery of the German Workers.

For us, the workers and poor farmers of the United

States, to whom all these appeals are addressed, it is well to remember the antecedents of those saviours of republicanism in Germany.

Have we really such a short memory? Where were all these saviours of republicanism a few short years ago? Don't we remember any more what a staunch supporter the Kaiser and Kaiserism had in the party, the chairman of which decorates at present the presidential chair of the "Republic" of Germany? Don't we remember the Scheidemanns and Noskes who have murdered or caused to be murdered

thousands of working class supporters of a German republic while they have permitted to this very day the avowed monarchist conspirators Ludendorff, Hindenburg, Ehrhardt, and hundreds of others, to strut around the country, in glittering uniforms, decorated with all the medals and orders pinned on their breast by the Kaiser? In what low esteem do these "gentlemen" hold our intelligence if they expect us to believe them when they try to parade before our eyes in the robes of saviours of the German republic?

This gentry, having the constitution of the republic constantly on the tip of their tongue, have violated that constitution every day since its existence. They have conspired against it since it was passed. They want to save it to preserve the privilege to break it and to overthrow it, for themselves.

But historic facts are stronger even than their lies. Not only overwhelm the facts of yesterday their pretensions of today. But the facts of today will also frustrate their plans of tomorrow.

In the meantime, however, the workers of Germany and their families, are starving. They are starving because capitalism can feed them no longer. Their misery and suffering are aggravated by plans of the present masters of Germany to starve the inevitable revolution. What can we do about that? What will we do about it?

The least we can do, the least we will do, is to aid the workers of Germany in their struggle for life. Help



Shall we let them perish?

LYDIA GIBSON

(Concluded on page 64)

Great Britain Recognizes Soviet Russia

IN spite of all efforts of the enemies of the Soviet Government, new Russia gradually succeeds in convincing the world that it is there to stay. And those who still nourish some faint hope of an eventual collapse of the Soviet Government better change their mind to escape bitter disappointment.

To the many countries that have reconciled themselves to the inevitable, and have recognized the Soviets as the de facto and de jure government there was added, on the thirty first of January, a power of the first magnitude, Great Britain. Prime Minister Macdonald, as his first official act of importance, instructed England's commercial agent, Robert M. Hodges, to hand over to the commissar of foreign affairs in Moscow a note, informing the Soviet Government, that the Government of Great Britain shakes hands with the Government of Russia, recognizing it as the real and only government of that country.

A wholesome difference between the attitude of our own Secretary of State and that of the English Government is visible in the latter's treatment of existing issues between it and the Russian Government. It mentions the existence of these issues. But it did not make recognition dependent upon settlement of such issues but expects this settlement on the basis of mutual agreements between both governments.

After officially notifying the Soviet Government of recognition by England's Government, the English note continues:

"In order, to create normal conditions of complete friendly relations and full commercial intercourse it will be necessary to conclude definite and practical agreements on a variety of matters, some of which have no direct connection with the question of recognition and some of which, on the other hand, are intimately bound up with recognition.

"In the latter category may be cited the question of the existing treaties. His majesty's government are advised that the recognition of the soviet government will, according to accepted principles of international law, automatically bring into force the treaties concluded between the two countries previous to the Russian revolution where these have been denounced or have otherwise judicially lapsed. It is obviously to the advantage of both countries that the position in regard to these treaties should be regularized simultaneously with recognition.

"Technically not connected with recognition but clearly of the utmost importance are the problems of the settlement of the existing claims by the government and nationals of one party against the other and the restoration of Russia's credit.

"In these circumstances his majesty's government invites the Russian government to send to London at the earliest possible date representatives armed with full powers to discuss these matters and to draw up a preliminary basis of a complete treaty to settle all questions outstanding between the two countries."

Report of recognition by England was made to the Second Congress of Soviets of the Union of Soviet Republics by M. Litvinoff. This body then passed a resolution "noting with satisfaction this historic step, one of the first acts of the first government of Great Britain chosen by the working classes."

"The workers and peasants' government of Russia, which originated in the great revolution, has made a struggle for peace as its foremost objective, and throughout its existence has persistently striven for a re-establishment of normal relations with all peoples," the Russian reply continues.

"The working class of Great Britain throughout this period has been a true ally of the working class of the soviet republics in their struggle for peace. The peoples of the soviet republics remember the efforts of the working classes in Great Britain and advanced sections of the British public opinion for ending the boycott, blockade and armed intervention.

"The intense atmosphere of international relations today is fraught with dangers of new world conflicts, justly constituting a subject for anxiety amongst the working people of all countries, and this step of the British labor government acquires a special striking importance. This second congress of soviets declares that cooperation with the peoples of Great Britain and the soviet republics is as before one of the first cares of the soviet republics, which, in keeping with its preceding policy of peace, will make every effort to settle all misunderstandings and develop and consolidate economic relations."



Seal of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republic

SOVIET RUSSIA IN THE HEADLINES

By Jay Lovestone

IT is rather difficult now-a-days to present an up-to-date record of the countries that have granted full diplomatic recognition or have assumed complete trade relations with the Soviet Government. The European countries are falling in line so rapidly that records of this sort get out of date by the time they appear in print. The following is a list of the countries that have accorded full diplomatic recognition to the Soviet Regime or have resumed trade relations:

Full Recognition—Afghanistan, Austria, (just completing negotiations for recognition), Esthonia, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Persia, Poland, Turkey, Norway. This makes thirteen countries in all that have recognized the Soviet Republic.

Trade Relations—Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Jugoslavia, China and Sweden have resumed full trade relations but have not entered into formal trade agreements. Thus five countries have resumed full trade relations.

The Soviet Government is now in the midst of completing trade and diplomatic negotiations with Japan, Holland, Roumania, Bulgaria, France.

Hughes Refuses Information

The United States Senate has just made public Document No. 31 as a report to this body from President Coolidge transmitting the decision of Secretary of State Hughes not to make public the reports on Russian affairs by William Joyce Thompson, Colonel Raymond Robins, General Graves, Major Slaughter, Governor J. P. Goodridge and Major Faymonville. The decision of Mr. Hughes is based on the fact that their publication "would be incompatible with the public interests." The document goes on to say that these letters "contain nothing, however, which the Secretary of State would wish to keep from the knowledge of Senators, and he has been happy to direct that they be made available, in confidence, to any Senator who may wish to read them at the Department of State."

This policy needs no comment. The request for these letters was made by Senator Borah who has consistently refused the generosity of the Departments of State and Justice to be given information in secret on Russian affairs.

Russian Textile Industry Growing Rapidly

According to Victor P. Nogin, President of the All-Russian Textile Syndicate, the textile industry in Russia is growing rapidly.

Victor Nogin is here to study the textile industry and to make certain purchases of raw cotton, dyes, machinery and general mill supplies. Today Russia is producing three times as much textiles as it did in 1918. The working men



A. I. Rykov, elected by the Congress of Soviets of the Union of Soviet Republics to succeed Lenin as the Chairman of the Council of Peoples Commissars.

are infinitely better off. Soviet Russia has raised three times the raw cotton poundage in Turkistan in 1923 than it did in 1922.

Radek on British Recognition

In discussing the Recognition of Soviet Russia at the Congress of the Union of Soviets, Karl Radek ascribed the British policy to three causes—the strength of the Soviet Republic, the conflict of interests between England and France and the division of the British non-labor political forces. Karl Radek said: "Recognition by the strongest European capitalist country has a tremendous significance. It means that all attempts to wring from us material concessions in exchange for recognition had ended unsuccessfully. They recognize us because they believe we exist and shall exist. If recognition is conceded by England the problem is already solved for other capitalist countries. Who comes late will lose their buy."

Russian Grain Shipments Increase

The Department of Commerce has just made public its latest findings on the revival in Russian agriculture. The official report says: "A very interesting item of the past year is the return of Russian export activities. While such exports are still under government control, they were considerable and at the present time Russian grain is said to be a much favored commodity in Rotterdam, London, Trieste and other European ports. The most important point in Russian grain exports is seen in the fact that European consumers are no longer so dependent upon the grain surplus from oversea countries and that Russian grain shipments are able to compete with others, especially so since the present freight rates from Trieste northward are exceptionally low.

"Shipments of Russian grain through the Bosphorus during the month of January 1924 amounted to 95,620 long tons of wheat, 7,215 long tons of corn, 13,380 long tons of barley and 58,760 long tons of rye."

Italian Recognition Terms

Most authentic reports indicate that the terms agreed upon by Italy and the Soviet Republic are substantially as follows:

1. A substantial reduction of Russian tariffs in favor of Italian ports.
2. Russia agrees to consign to Italy a certain quantity of cereals and food stuffs especially adapted for the manufacture of macaroni.
3. Russia agrees to purchase annually a certain quantity of Italian industrial products.
4. Coast-wide traffic in the Black Sea is reserved