

# CHINESE SOVIETS WHERE CANTON DID NOT SUCCEED

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ON December 11th, the First Congress of the Chinese Soviets will be held, as the second step in consolidating the growing power of the Soviets in China. This is a challenge to the imperialist powers and their hirelings and tools, the militarist Chinese generals.

Three years ago, when the Canton uprising took place, it was possible for the Chinese military leaders to slaughter thousands of Chinese workers, for the working class movement was not consolidated and the leadership was weak. Chiang Kai-shek and his hangmen, at the orders of the imperialist powers massacred the revolutionary workers and earned the thanks of their bosses.

But today, the situation has radically changed. True, the workers of Canton have not yet organized their Soviets. The workers of Shanghai and the other industrial centers still face the executioner's sword, and especially the Communists are the object of hatred of the fascist Chinese leaders. But all over the country, the workers and peasants have organized Soviets and built up Red Armies and, proceeding from section to section, are conquering more territory and establishing Soviet power.

While the wars between the military cliques continued bitter, the Communists and the revolutionary workers were able to move forward with increasing speed, for the workers and peasants learned from the lessons of the military wars and recognized that a change of military masters did not signify an improvement in their situation, but on the contrary subjected them to worse economic conditions. Conditions in the fascist armies became worse, and this induced large numbers of the soldiery to desert to the side of the revolutionists.

When the revolutionary Red Armies and Lances moved forward, they became a menace to the imperialist powers, which utilized any incident to threaten intervention. England and the United States have continually threatened intervention. British and American gunboats and marines have shot upon the Red Armies in order to provoke an "incident" that would justify intervention. This unquestionably would have materialized, if the situation in the imperialist countries, with their mass unemployment and discontent, did not hamper the action of the imperialist powers. England is hampered on all sides by the colonies: India, Egypt, Malta, Palestine, the breakdown of the British Commonwealth, which has been emphasized at the inter-imperial conference. The revolutions in Latin America, as a result of the provocation and intrigues of British and American imperialism; mass discontent in the Philippines; the tremendous vote for the Communist Party and for a Soviet Germany in the last German elections; the struggle against the Young Plan—and above all the splendid achievements in building socialism in the Soviet Union, which is a direct challenge to capitalism—these are some of the problems confronting the imperialist powers, which prevent united action in China and prevent even individual action in the Chinese situation.

In the meantime, the situation in China has gone from bad to worse. Mass starvation, mass unemployment, the drop in the value of silver, have aroused the masses, who are flocking to the banner of the Soviets. Villages, towns, districts have gone over to the Soviets. Soviet authority has been established. The estates of the feudal landowners have been confiscated; mortgages have been burnt in the squares; the eight-hour day has been established, Red Armies have been established. A conference was held in May for consolidating the Soviet Power, and now the congress of the Chinese Soviets will be held.

The Chinese Revolution is another bright light in the workers' and peasants' movement. The movement has many weaknesses—not sufficient organizational base in the industrial cities, where the unions have been crushed,

working class organizations suppressed, the press outlawed. The Communist Party and Young Communist League have conducted an heroic battle and have lost tens of thousands of their members who have been slaughtered by orders of the savage militarist leaders who carry out the instructions of the imperialist powers. But the organization has been adapted to the situation and the struggle goes on and will be intensified by the Congress of the Chinese Soviets.

The Chinese Revolution is not the work of the Chinese workers and peasants alone. The workers and peasants of the Soviet Union are always ready to help their Chinese comrades. But the workers in the imperialist countries—United States, Japan, England, France—also have a major task. These tasks may be divided into direct and indirect tasks. Directly, the workers in the imperialist countries can help by preventing the shipment of war material to the Chinese war lords. In the ammunition, chemical, airplane factories, they can do militant work in aiding the Chinese revolutionists. The railroad and marine workers have their special job. In all sections of the imperialist countries, solidarity with the Chinese Revolution must be an issue on which to mobilize large masses of workers to struggle against their imperialist government.

Indirectly, the workers of the imperialist countries can do very much to help the Chinese Revolution. The struggle against their own imperialist government on immediate issues arising from the present crisis will weaken the ability of the government to mobilize for intervention in the Chinese Revolution, and to carry on imperialist exploits elsewhere. The present economic crisis presents the workers of the capitalist countries with the necessity for struggle. Unemployment insurance and the strike struggle against wage cuts, the organization and mobilization of the workers for these struggles and the inevitable clashes with the imperialist government hinder the government from mobilizing against the Chinese Revolution. The exploits of American imperialism in Latin America, which are leading to war against British imperialism, can be obstructed by the militant struggles of the workers for their immediate needs.

The struggle of the Chinese workers and peasants is part of the struggle of the workers and peasants throughout the colonial and semi-colonial world—Latin America, India, Indonesia, Indo-China, Africa, etc.—against world imperialism. The Chinese workers and peasants are at the front in this struggle. Their struggle is part of the struggle of the workers throughout the world against unemployment, wage cuts, speed-up, which the imperialists are trying to solve by making war on the colonies for the procurement of markets, for protecting their colossal investments, and for securing raw materials.

On the third anniversary of the revolt in Canton, we hail the First Congress of the Chinese Soviets, which are moving forward in struggle to unity with the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics. It is an event of world-wide significance to the working class all over the world. Solidarity and support must be given to the Chinese workers and peasants by the workers of the United States by the struggle for the Workers Unemployment Insurance Bill of the Communist Party, for organization of the unemployed into the Unemployed Councils, of the workers in the shops into the revolutionary unions of the Trade Union Unity League, by strikes under the leadership of the revolutionary unions against wage cuts, by demonstrations and militant action in support of the Chinese Soviets and the rising revolutionary tide in Germany, Latin America, India, etc.

Chinese Soviets where Canton did not succeed—but where Canton, Shanghai and the other industrial cities of China will soon take the lead in the struggle against world imperialism and for the establishment of the power of the Soviets throughout China!