

Freedom

A JOURNAL OF ANARCHIST COMMUNISM.

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THE REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA.

It is now evident that Russia is going to live through a period of Revolution, such as England lived through in 1645-1655, and France in 1788-1793. Not merely a change in the form of government, and not merely a series of uprisings of the peasants and the working men, but a combination of both at the same time, leading to a complete change in the economical and political aspects of the life of the country.

Absolute rule has lived its time. On all sides it is felt that it can be maintained no longer, and the educated middle classes already endeavour to build up their rule on the same principles as it has been built up in this country and in France. But they are incapable of doing it themselves, and they are bound to appeal to the people and thus to favour its uprisings. And, on the other side, the mass of the people—the peasants and the working men—seize this opportunity of a weakened central Government for rising against secular oppression. They see that now is their time to accomplish substantial changes in their economical conditions and they take advantage of it. This is what happened in England in the seventeenth century, even though the English historians avoid speaking at any length of the great popular insurrections against the feudal lords and the demolition of their castles, and divert us only with stories about the religious struggles and the struggles in Parliament. And this is also what happened in France during its Great Revolution, even though the French historians, too, only mention with a blush the peasant uprisings which really abolished feudalism, and the uprisings of the people of Paris, which wrested the power from royalty, and forced the timorous and egotistic legislators to issue a number of revolutionary laws.

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Russia is thus entering upon a movement very similar to what is known as the Great Revolution in France, and which probably will have the same effect. After England and France, it is now Russia's turn to live through its Revolution.

For many years in succession the condition of the peasants, especially in Central Russia, had been rendered untenable, the more so as notwithstanding all the efforts of the State to keep the peasants in absolute ignorance and submission, a new spirit of discontent, and in places of revolt, was steadily growing among them. They see that the land that has been taken from them by the landlords lies idle, and is only a source of rack rents for the landlord, which simply ruin the agricultural population. They have a vague idea that this land is theirs, and that in some way, which they do not care to specify in their minds, some day it must revert to them; and as they feel that something extraordinary is going on in the country, where everybody is speaking of some coming change, they begin already to seize in many places the opportunity for making *their* change, that is, for *taking* the land which is their's in spite of the monopolists' law, for refusing the rack-rents, or for helping themselves from the forests which the law recognises as belonging to the landlords, but which popular intelligence has always considered as the property of all. Like all peasant movements, this movement of the Russian peasants is evidently not a pre-concerted uprising. It breaks out here and there to-day without anyone being able to tell where it will break out to-morrow; but this very absence of plan and this very spontaneity are both renders it so difficult of being suppressed, and so terrifying for the landlords and all sorts of middle class drones living upon the people's sweat. And this is also why the noblemen and the middle classes, seeing that the St. Petersburg bureaucracy is unable to put a stop to these uprisings, ask it to surrender to them the task of government, and talk already of arming their own militia. In the meantime, if the peasant movement takes a wide extension—if it only covers one half, or even one-third, of the territory of Russia—this will already do for accomplishing the deepest changes in the whole of the economical conditions. In France, it was limited only to the eastern, south and north-eastern portions of the country, and this was sufficient to paralyse the central Government for four years, during which all the vestiges of feudal relations were abolished.

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All indications at the present time are to the effect that such will really be the case. Peasant insurrections break out in various provinces of Central and South-western Russia, and in some places they take an extremely interesting character. The revolted peasants, as a rule, do not consider themselves as law breakers; they act in accord-

ance with a higher law of justice, which may disagree with the written law, but is the one that ought to exist. When they cut the landlord's woods or take hold of his grain stores, they do it in broad daylight with a certain formalism and solemnity.

In a province of the Western Caucasus, which contains a peasant population of at least 150,000 persons, the Gurian (*i.e.*, West Georgian) peasants have even started a most wonderful republic of their own. It must be said that these peasants, who live upon a very intensive culture of their small land-holdings, have always been remarkable for their intellectual development and their taste for education. In every village, down to the smallest hamlet perched on the slopes of the hills, they have a school and a library of their own. Now they have sent away all the functionaries, whether Russian or Georgian, and manage all their affairs themselves by means of village committees. Those functionaries who did not obey at once the injunction for leaving were most severely boycotted, and if repeated injunctions for leaving and warnings did not help, they were killed. In short, the Gurian peasants have constituted within the last twelve months an absolutely self-managing peasant Republic, against which the Russian authorities have hitherto proved quite helpless. It is a Commune, like the Commune of Paris, but spread over a certain territory, and self-supporting—the prototype of that Commune Territory which some of the American working men hope to start some day in one of the Western States.

Against widely spread and widely-scattered peasant uprisings the armies of a central Government are helpless, and it seems most probable that those of Russia are going to spread wider and wider as soon as the summer comes. It is needless to say that in these uprisings we lay the best hopes. It is only through uprisings that the peasants may hope to realise any steps towards the improvement of their present untenable misery. No Parliament would be capable of accomplishing anything that might substantially improve their conditions. The educated middle classes will never accomplish an act of economical suicide, and freely give the land to the peasants, any more than the Imperial Government will commit an act of political suicide and itself put an end to its omnipotence. On the contrary, all the schemes of a Constitution that are circulated now, are such as to secure the preponderance of the middle classes in the future Parliament. Nay, some Russian Social Democrats are already preaching that *a trap must be put to the popular uprisings*; no attempts must be made at expropriation; property rights must be respected, because the time has not yet come for Socialist expropriation; Capitalism is not yet powerful enough to be expropriated. Let them only come to power—they will soon send all these expropriators to the guillotine. . . . It is thus evident that only by achieving the expropriation themselves, on the spot, in every region and every village will the Russian people get any serious change in their economical conditions,—and this is, we hope, what the working classes and the peasants already realise.

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The main element for a Revolution is thus present. In the towns, the working men already put no trust in their middle-class or Social Democratic leaders. They try themselves, through direct action, to force from their exploiters all possible concessions. They certainly will not wait for a Parliament to beg from it a nine hours' or eight hours' day; they will act—some of them already do—as we advised the English workers to act, when we suggested that on the second of May they ought to simply leave work at four o'clock, and take their five o'clock tea at home.

And finally, it must be said that the educated middle classes, all over Russia testify of their dissatisfaction with the absolute rule with a unanimity of which nobody, even among themselves, thought them capable. When they saw that the old spirit which had inspired the Executive Committee in 1878-1881 was again alive, and that no obstacles, no victims, would stop the revolutionists in the war they had declared against the supporters of autocracy—those middle class well-to-do Liberals, whose subsmissiveness had known no limits for the past forty years began to lift up their bent down heads. When Plehve was killed, although he was guarded with all the precautions which human foresight could invent, and the Court party could find nobody to continue his policy of oppression, and thus make the experiment of the opposite system of far-going promises,—then even these middle-class intellectuals began to show some signs of "prudent temerity." They would even go so far as to openly show some signs of sympathy with their sons and daughters who went to people the prisons of Siberia and Sakhalin; they would even dare to bite their thumbs at autocracy.

(Continued on page 15).

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NOTES.

THE WORKER AND THE LAW.

Another note of despair at the failure of the law to "act" when it concerns the interest of the worker has recently been sounded. This time it is the "poor women "lace-clippers" of Nottingham. These unfortunate victims of capitalist greed, it seems, besides suffering all the ills that exploitation brings, must needs submit to the injustice of having to pay out of miserable earnings for any slight damage done to the lace in their handling of it. As the women work at home, and for various firms, they do not come "within the Act." The noble Judges of the King's Bench dismissed the case "with some reluctance." We certainly should be glad to dismiss the noble Judges and all their tribe without any reluctance whatever. For after all (and we commend this point to the notice of our Socialist friends with the legal bias) what matters it whether we are within or without the Act? The all-important fact remains that we are in the pale of the capitalist system, and while that is so we may expect what we get. There is no permanent hope for labour—whether of men, women, or children—till the capitalist is shown the door and the workers work for themselves. After that all the laws can go to the devil—and the Judges with them.

MURDER BY MOTOR-CAR.

The infamous conduct of the driver and occupants of the Harms worth motor-car in killing a little boy and driving on with cold-blooded indifference reminds us of the doings of the French aristocrats before the Great Revolution. We wish we could see as speedy a retribution overtaking these scoundrels as befel the French aristocrats. For the public, if it has any sense, will surely hold the Harmsworths responsible, as it is they who have agitated more than any others for the right of the motorists to go as they please, regardless of public safety. This gang of adventurers who began their careers by debauching the public conscience with a lying and hypocritical press, end by riding us down like dogs. And be it noted that these same carrion who cry for an anti-alien Bill were having their car driven by a foreign chauffeur, upon whom they will try to fix all responsibility. It is too sickening for words. If the British public will stand the Harmsworths, they will stand anything.

UNDER THE HEEL OF THE POLICE.

We wonder if any reasonable person, whose mind had not been perverted by a false education and a false conception of social life, would regard it as a stupid and dangerous thing to treat with human sympathy and kindness such of our fellow mortals who for good or bad reasons had committed some offence against our social customs and usages? It seems possible that such a person might infer that the advantages of kind treatment would be overwhelming in comparison with present-day methods of treating what are ignominiously called "ticket-of-leave men." If Oscar Otten's story is true—and we take his word before that of the police—then for sheer low-minded, brutal vindictiveness the methods of the law would take a lot of beating. Otten had secured employment, but as anyone can imagine it would only be by avoiding police supervision that he could hope to retain it. The official mind never tolerates any attempt to subvert its authority, and the hounds were soon on the track; with the result that Otten was dismissed. Of course, the official account whitewashed the official character, to save themselves—and the system. But we know what we know, and this system of espionage is a curse to all concerned, and only a society in the last stages of decay could resort to such methods of "protecting" itself. Where is the society for the protection, not of animals, but of the mere human victims of the law and its injustice?

THRIFT AND SPENDTHRIFTS.

We are glad to see the *Daily News* pricking that absurd bubble "thrift," which "economists" used to blow as a pinacea for poverty. It points out ("Life and Labour," April 20th) that the average earnings of manual workers in 1904 could not have been more than about £48. But as the average man does not exist, it is obvious that many must be living below this scale. Indeed, Rowntree has proved that

one-sixth of our population is below the primary poverty line, and one-third either below it or barely above it. To talk of thrift even to the comparatively well-off worker is, we hope, too obvious a red-herring for the majority of wage-slaves nowadays. If our national annual income reaches £1,750,000,000, as it probably does, one can imagine how the parasites are able to do the spending while the workers practise the thrift. To put the case in its true colours, one can imagine how the useful masses must toil and hunger and pinch to enable the useless classes to revel in the luxuries and the power their stolen wealth allows them. Who talks of "palliating" such a system?

A NATIONAL RAILWAY STRIKE.

After withdrawing one Bill before the "legal strike" of the railway men, the Italian Government has passed an equally futile one in the midst of a general railway strike, which so impressed the strike committee that they at once ordered the men back to work.

The strike was declared on Monday, the 17th of April. On that day the goods traffic was suspended entirely, the military were put in charge of the railways, and passenger traffic was disorganised. On the second day an occasional train made its way between the principal centres; on the third, a minimum service was organised, and "official" reports were wired round the country that the strike had failed. Naval stokers and engineers manned the few trains and the military guards and escorts were doubled. On the fourth, it was generally known that all over the country the strike was doing well, and that in many towns there was a serious lack of fresh provisions. But on that day the Government passed a Bill, in spite of the long speeches of the Socialist Deputies, and the strike ended.

It has not been published that the strike committee were hypnotised by the Socialist Parliamentary group, but on the last day the former received a letter from the latter in which they were "seriously exhorted to consider the gravity of the actual situation." On which the Deputies were requested to treat with the Minister. They obtained nothing but the vaguest promises and returned to the committee for a long consultation, the result of which was the ending of a strike which had been growing in solidarity at the daily rate of 160, 250, 330, according to the roll-call of stokers and engineers in a representative district.

Whatever the conscious object of the Deputies in this action, the result will be to re-ingratiate them with the "piccolo borghese" who would sell anybody's soul so that trade might not be interrupted while the foreigner is still in the land. In any case it is evident that had the strike committee been left to their work the Government would have been obliged in one, two, or three days to do something more than promise. Further, at a word from the strikers there were three of the largest cities fully capable and willing to initiate a General Strike, and it was only by the most careful wording of manifestoes that the committee was able to retain the sympathy of the proletariat while at the same time refusing their help. Even so there were one or two sympathy strikes of small importance.

The passing of the railways under State administration, and the failure of these days to materialise the aspirations, themselves reduced and limited by the leaders, of a lawyer-led proletariat offer but one consolation, the intensification of Anarchist propaganda in this State-ridden country.

K. W.

IN ALEXIS RAVELIN.

(From the Russian of P. Polivanov.)

[The author of this poem was a revolutionist who tried to rescue some of his friends from prison. He was caught, and was confined for twenty years in the fortress of Schlussembourg. At the end of his term he was released with shattered nerves, and soon after committed suicide.]

Always the same dim, cheerless, dusty vaults,

The same bars darkening all the window-space!

Long ranks of years, that seem like evil dreams

In broken sleep, stretch out before my face.

If but one distant sound could here be heard

Of life, broad, free, and seething like the main,

It would have stirred me with its mighty strength,

And eased the burden of this torturing pain.

No! all around me reigns a deathly hush,

Heart-crushing, grave-like; in it nothing stirs

Save now and then the buzzing of a fly,

Or in the corridor the clash of spurs.

Bright burden of emotions and of strife,

Time of impassioned hope and fancy high,

Of faith in glad days for posterity—

Where are you now? Vanished, as dreams go by!

A mist has settled over all the past,

Enwrapping it for ever in its shroud;

And it has thickened to a funeral robe,

And hangs above me like a boding cloud.

This leaden cloud depresses heavily;

It chills the brain with long confinement worn,

And pierces deep my soul with poison hot

Of black and heavy thoughts, in prison born.

—From the *Boston Evening Transcript*, ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.

(Concluded from page 13).

Then came the working men's movement of the 22nd of January, and the bloody massacre. A movement that had grown out of the depths of the working men's conscience, absolutely free of any leadership on behalf of the intellectuals. "We don't want your help," the working men said to the few intellectuals, including the Social Democrats, who came to the preliminary meeting which preceded the demonstration. "Words, words is all we hear from you!" And they organised it all themselves, 80,000 of them taking the oath of coming out on that Sunday, although they foresaw well that they would be shot at. It was entirely *their* movement, and continues to remain *their's*. And this is why it will lead them to revolutionary measures.

Upon the "prudent" middle-class discontents this Labour movement had the most stirring effect. Their usual excuse for their prudent servility had always been that they could do nothing because the people would not support them. Now, that they saw the people ready to come out and to brave even the Tsar's army, they dared, at least, to speak out what they had been whispering into each other's ears. All over Russia now lawyers, doctors, engineers, musicians, professors, and teachers come together and openly express their disgust with absolutism, and openly claim a Constitution.

The old spell is broken! No force in the world will be able now to bring things back to what they were six months ago. The dam has been pierced by the bomb which killed Plehve, and by the working men who brought their lives as an holocaust to the coming Revolution.

No force can stop the Revolution now. It must, it will, run its natural course, and we shall feel its effects down to the shores of these Isles.

LABOUR DAY.

If the workers, and especially the English workers, who will be celebrating the First of May this year could thoroughly grasp the deep and vital import of what is happening around them at the present moment, the tone of their meetings would have a revolutionary character that would revitalise the Labour movement, wring concessions from the dominant class that decades of political action would never obtain, and clear the path for the ultimate conquest of that social life after which we are all thirsting.

What should be preached to-day above all things is the gospel of revolt. The stagnation that has overtaken the Radicals, the Trade Unionists, and the Democrats is due as much to the lack of this spirit as to the sterile political propaganda adopted by the Social Democrats, with its inevitable consequences of apathy and disgust on the part of the workers. In spite of Mr. Hyndman's sneers at the Liberals and Progressives, it is to his own and his followers' desertion of the revolutionary propaganda that a lack of spirited resistance to the reaction has been largely due.

To-day, however, things are somewhat changed. First and foremost the Revolution in Russia has, so to speak, electrified the air. The social nerves are in a sense higher strung as a consequence of what has happened there, and for the moment one is not regarded as a dreadful Anarchist because of one's open approval of the Revolution. Then there is the Italian movement, with its deeply interesting possibilities, in which can be seen in clear outline the working of the two forces that will soon have to come to a final issue. But even so far as matters have gone, the direct method of the General Strike leaves no doubt as to which means will eventually succeed in conquering the enemies of the workers.

So that we stand now at the beginning of a period when the feeling of revolt begins to animate the minds of the working classes. The long-hoped-for desire to throw off the chains, to be done with one's slavery once for all, is slowly but surely taking possession of the minds of that intelligent minority of the workers who form the vanguard of the Labour movement. And the more this section studies events now in progress, and ignores the plausible platitudes of their timid and narrow-minded leaders the more will they become convinced that the ballot-box is a delusion and a snare—a mere toy to please the babies—and that to revolt, to strike, really wins ground upon which we can battle for still further victories.

The usual cry will go up that to advocate such methods is to favour bloodshed in preference to peaceful means. But a lie like this would never have to be refuted if the people knew history. The so-called "peaceful people" when they have been sincere have encouraged bloodshed by their very attitude rather than prevented it; whilst those who repeat the parrot-cry of "constitutional means" are always those who are prepared to shed unlimited quantities of blood to preserve their own privileges. It may be a sad reflection to know that human progress has so often cost the lives of the best and bravest of mankind, but it is better to face the truth and strike in a good cause than to rot in slavery.

In this sense, and feeling the imminent perils and possibilities of the near future, it could have been wished that at least a clear call for the General Strike should have been proclaimed for the First of May, 1905. The time is ripe, and if at this moment the English workers could have enthusiastically demonstrated their solidarity with the

revolutionary spirit which is beginning to breathe forth on the Continent it would have come as a moral wave in the present struggle and would have lifted our own movements out of the Slough of Despond into which it seems so hopelessly fallen. Instead of this what shall we hear on the First of May from the democratic leaders of the people?

The same whining over the way in which Balfour and Chamberlain are playing the political game at the cost of the nation; attacks on Long for his shameful dealings with the Unemployed Bill; discontent with the Trades Dispute Bill, and so on. And at the end of it all the worthy speaker will have one word of hope for the worker—that all this shall be altered when he or his party get returned to take their seats amongst the corrupt gang of lawyers, brewers, and company promoters who will do their best to contaminate the lives of the "Labour leaders" with the rottenness which vitiates a Parliamentary career.

And the economic struggle with its clear and direct bearing on the whole of the Labour problem, and the attainment of true Socialism, will hardly be mentioned. The overwhelming importance of the Labour wars on the Continent and in America will not be brought home by the "leaders." The moral victory of the strikers at Limoges, which is of the first importance, will have only a passing reference. In a word, the immense power and possibilities of the strike will be discounted in favour of the old worn-out political formulas which they hope will lift them into power.

But if the Social Democrats succeed this time in avoiding the real issues at stake, we believe it will be for the last time. Before another year shall have passed they will be compelled by the force of events to reconsider their position, and by 1906 even in England the idea of the General Strike will have come to stay.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

France.

Much of the china used throughout the world comes from Limoges, a large city in the centre of France, and the scene of the recent street fighting between strikers and soldiery, Labour and the capitalist's mailed fist. For some two months there had been much suppressed excitement and discontent among the city's workers due to friction in various trades, and the determined effort, notably among the dressers of rabbit skins, to have their wages increased. The latter is a terrible occupation, the men living in an atmosphere of mercury and acids that quickly ruins their health. They gained a minimum wage of half-a-crown a day. In all the various strikes men and women stood shoulder to shoulder, and liberal grants came from the unions. Then the workers in one of the many porcelain factories came out owing to a dispute with the manager regarding the dismissal of a foreman, and a general lock-out followed. The hot blood of the "Midi" then flamed. Street demonstrations were quickly organised and as quickly opposed by the police, whose brutality so incensed the crowd that, determined on reprisals, they attempted to seize a powder magazine. Foiled by its military guard, they more successfully raided a gunsmith's shop, capturing a hundred rifles and ammunition. That night passed, but on April 16th they attempted to rescue various comrades who had been arrested and were lying in prison, but again were faced by troops. They then, full, like all Frenchmen, of the fighting instinct, tore down railings and erected barricades. They had few rifles but many stones, and with these pelted the cavalry who were bidden to charge and break down the barricades. Twisted wire brought down many of the horses and their riders, when carnage followed. As usual, the officers deny all responsibility for the bloodshed. They had told their men to use the flat of their sabres only, to fire in the air, and so forth. Result of firing in the air—two workers killed and an unknown number wounded by ball. But the victors did not win easily. Ten thousand voices sang the "Internationale" in the dark behind the barricades. "Think of the 10,000 soldiers in Limoges," implored a weeping mayor when, refusing to open the prison gates to them, he saw they were bent on conflict. They did think of them, and every thought became a well-aimed stone. The soldier who fires at an unarmed brother deserves no pity. He got none in Limoges. Every charge was met again and again bravely by the strikers. Before the last of the barricades fell the infantry had advanced, and it required two volleys to still the workers behind it. What a splendid resistance to armed authority was made is shown by the fact of one squadron of cavalry alone having five officers and forty-four men injured. How terrified even a Republican Government becomes when unarmed workmen dare to assert themselves is demonstrated by the reply of the Premier to the Socialist members, that it is not surprising for a soldier to fire when stones are flung; while a motion for an inquiry as to the responsibility for the loss of life was defeated by a large majority. If a worker won't be governed, down with him anyhow.

At Brest, the strikes are mostly over, many of the demands of the men being conceded. A ten-hour day is now generally recognised, and a minimum wage of from three to four francs. The authorities are still on the alert, and the trials of the strikers arrested during the past six months are not yet over; but the workers have felt their power, the unions become daily stronger, and there is a rapid growth of solidarity among all of them. Every union throughout France is determined to win an eight-hour day, and interesting scenes may be expected in a year's time if, as now arranged, every working man in the country throws down his tools after eight hours' labour from May Day, 1906. "General Strikes" are to follow if the capitalists take aggressive action, and the housewives are to see to it that each house is provisioned for two months beforehand. Passive resistance of this sort coupled with the stoppage of commerce and trade will, it is thought, force the concession from unwilling masters.

La Rue, Jules Valle's paper of forty years ago, has been revived as an illustrated "occasional." It ended with the French Commune, and begins its new life with the Russian Revolution, devoting every page to this topic, with articles by Nieuwenhuis, Malato, and others. Editorial office, 45, Rue de Saintonge, Paris.

America.

Here, as in England and elsewhere, the Law stands determinedly between the worker and freedom, let alone justice. The U.S. Supreme Court has decided once for all that every law passed by the States to limit the hours of labour is unconstitutional; therefore that all such may be repealed on demand by the capitalists. New York State had passed a law making ten hours the legal limit for bakers, and the master bakers appealed to the Supreme Court, which now issues its Draconian edict. At least a hundred laws passed for easing the wage-earner of his burden of long hours have been crossed out by the stroke of a lawyer's pen. It is obvious that there will be at once an increase of the working day in all trades, and that the law will no longer stand between employer and employed. How often have Anarchist speakers and journals pointed out to the proletariat that their wrongs will never be redressed by those in power, that the law is not for them! What they lack they must take through a sea of blood and tears—there is no other way. The past has proved it, the present emphasises it, the future is all portent. The watchword must be "Unity and Organisation," while one side holds a machine-gun, the other but a stone. This watchword seems to have seized on Colorado, where it is proposed to start an Industrial Union for all trades. Many Unions are feeble for want of membership and dues, but if the new plan succeeds, a small union backed in its demands by a solid body such as a great Industrial Union may become, is pretty sure to persuade a capitalist that it interests business and concessions. A great sign of the times in the States is the interest women are taking in Socialism. California has its Mrs. Lewis, a young woman who, known long as a temperance advocate, learnt that economic causes were the bases of what drove to drink and poverty. She studied Socialism, and took her stand as a street propagandist of a thoroughly courageous type. Arrested in San Francisco when speaking at a street corner in defiance of a police mandate, she won the trial and the right of Socialists to speak on the city streets unmolested. New York has a prominent and wealthy woman whose object in life is the organisation of women workers.

At Buenos Ayres our contemporary, *La Protesta*, is again passing through stormy times. The office seems usually in the hands of the military, but when they depart the doors open again and *La Protesta* issues forth in a more spirited manner than ever.

Common Sense, "an advocate of industrial co-operation," will well repay the prospective subscriber. It is a full and bright weekly, published at 207, New High Street, Los Angeles, Cal., with none of the acrimonious personalities that disfigure so many Socialist papers. The subscription is 1 d. a year.

LITERARY NOTES.

Deen Thought, by J. Wm. Lloyd (published by the Lloyd Group, Box 511, Westfield, N.J.) is practically a volume of short essays on social and religious subjects, with a pan-Theistic conception of Nature. Freedom, however, is the spirit that is extolled and breathes through all so that one can read it with interest and sympathy.

The Natural Man; a Romance of the Golden Age, also by the same author, is a little fantasy with a love theme running through it and inculcating a saner and simpler method of life.

Wind-Harp Songs, also by J. Wm. Lloyd, contains manner poems of great merit. This little volume is refreshing to read; the ideas and their treatment are so fine, so clear and unconventional. All these volumes are beautifully printed and bound.

RELIEF FUND For Russian Revolutionists.

As this is a moment when every possible help should be given to our comrades in their terrible struggle with autocracy, we appeal to all friends to send their help. However small it will be welcome, and will be faithfully directed into the right channels.

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