

Why Soviet Russia Should Be Recognized

“The Soviet government has always stood and continues to stand on a platform of restoration of normal relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.” – Soviet Foreign Commissar Litvinov.

The Revolution of November 7, 1917 created the Soviet State of workers and peasants in the midst of the World War, in response to the striving of the Russian masses for peace, bread and freedom. Eight months before, on March 15, the Tsar’s government was overthrown, but the succeeding governments of the capitalists and landlords continued the war and the exploitation of the masses. When the workers and peasants took power, under the leadership of the Bolsheviks, they had to fight for four years against the former ruling class; against invasion and attack by foreign governments who sent their armies into Soviet Russia to aid the former rulers in the effort to crush the Workers’ government. The enemies’ effort failed; but it left the country in a state of utter ruin, still more aggravated by the severe drought of 1921 in the Volga region, with famine and untold sufferings in its wake.

15 Years of Heroic Struggle

Only in 1921, after the foreign troops were driven out and the White Guard bands were defeated, could the Soviet government begin the restoration of the country. The industry of Russia, little developed and inefficient as it was under the Tsarist regime, was brought practically to a standstill. Railroad and water transport were in bad shape. Agriculture too was in a sad plight; great sections of the country were devastated by the fighting armies. Seven years of fighting left the country short of everything. To reconstruct industry and agriculture in the ruined country was a task requiring superhuman effort. But the determination of the workers, the knowledge that they were for the first time in history their own masters, enabled them to overcome the almost hopeless situation. Their success in restoring industry and agriculture in six years to the pre-war level of production, is second only to their great achievements under the Five Year Plan. This was accomplished in spite of the open hostility of the capitalists outside and the sabotage of the hidden enemies within the country. Despite this hostility, which expressed itself in

economic boycott, political non-recognition and plots to overthrow the Soviet Government, Soviet Russia proceeded with its plans for industrial expansion and the steady improvement of the standard of living of the masses. Thus the first Five Year Plan was begun at the end of 1928, with the aim to transform an illiterate, backward agricultural country into a modern industrial state with the greatest possible speed. By the end of 1932, the gigantic task set by the Plan was successfully accomplished; in its most important aspects the Plan was completed a year ahead of time. The output of industry is now three times what it was in 1918. Agriculture is close to the goal of complete collectivization and mechanization. Eighty per cent of the farm land is organized in large collective and state farms, where tractors and combines have, to a large extent, displaced the emaciated horse and primitive plow.

Victories of the First Five Year Plan

The cultural level of the population has risen along with a higher standard of living. A people which was 67 per cent illiterate before the Revolution has practically wiped out illiteracy and is now sending all its children to schools and a large part of its youth to colleges and universities. The health of the population has vastly improved; Russia in 1913 had a death rate of 28.6 per thousand, now it is below 20 per thousand, a decline of over 40 per cent. Infant mortality has dropped from 270 to 120, or to less than one half. The dread of workers in capitalist countries – of sickness, unemployment and the haunting fear of old age, is no longer known in the Soviet Union. Every effort is being made to improve the working and living conditions; the working day has been reduced to 7 hours, and in many industries, like coal mining, to 6 hours. The new factories that are being constructed provide space and sunlight as well as the most modern safety devices. Every factory has its workers' dining room, day or night school, clinic, nursery for children whose mothers are at work. Workers get annual vacations with full pay.

Women in the Soviet Union receive greater protection than anywhere on the face of the earth. Eight weeks before and eight weeks after childbirth women employed in industry are relieved from duty, but receive full wages during this period. Their pay and hours of labor are equal to men's. The government is helping women to escape as much household drudgery as possible; it provides nurseries and kindergartens for children, factory kitchens where ready-

cooked hot food may be obtained and taken home, cooperative dining rooms, etc. Children occupy a privileged position in the Soviet Union. In the matter of food they are the first to be considered; they have medical care from the day of their birth. In the family circle and school they are given every opportunity for physical and mental development. They are encouraged to take part in sports, to go on excursions, to organize groups for distant trips in the summer to the mountains or countryside; they learn their trades while playing. The second Five Year Plan provides for universal compulsory education up to the age of 17, which is far in advance of anything ever done for the rising generation anywhere else in the world.

The Soviet Union has completely eliminated racial discrimination. The numerous nationality groups in the Soviet Union, the Tungus in the frozen north, the Tadjiks in the deserts of Central Asia, the light haired Vots in Karelia and the dark skinned Mongols of the Far East, are free and equal citizens of the Soviet Republic, with local self-government and native culture in their own languages.

The Hostility of the Capitalist World

Against this people, numbering 163,000,000, building a new classless Socialist society, the capitalist world has waged war for fifteen years. The open war of 1918-1921 was succeeded by a war of calumny and slander, a war of economic and political opposition. In this war the United States government has taken a leading part. The United States government has fought the Soviet Union from the beginning; first by supporting Kolchak and other White Guard bands with munitions and money and by sending armies to Archangel and Siberia; later by vicious tales of "forced labor" and "dumping", and all the while by its policy of non-recognition of the Soviet Government. Since Wilson's time the United States government has continued in its attitude of bitter hostility to the Soviet Union. During the Hoover administration this attitude was intensified to such an extent that even trade relations between the two countries have practically ceased. Today the Soviet purchases in this country are not more than 10 per cent of what they were in 1929 and 1930. The enmity of powerful capitalist groups in the United States, supported by the Hoover administration, by officials of the American Federation of Labor and by various labor hating organizations, drove Soviet trade to Germany, England and other countries, the governments of these countries establishing diplomatic and trade

relations with the Soviet Union many years before. And within the past year Finland, Esthonia, Latvia, Poland, and France signed non-aggression pacts with the Soviet Government. These pacts are the result of the consistent peace policy of the Soviet Union, and the growth of its economic and political strength. At the same time they reflect the growing sympathies of the toiling masses of the world with the Soviet workers. The capitalist governments were forced to conclude these pacts because of the sharpening conflicts among themselves, and to a great extent because of the growing sympathies of the workers of their respective countries.

Anti-Soviet Propaganda

The opponents of recognition in the United States, the industrial magnates, the powerful financial combinations, the capitalist press, the reactionary labor leaders, have created a smoke screen of objections to recognition which fooled part of the American working masses for fifteen years. The numerous lies and slanders which make up this smoke screen, from the early lie of "nationalization of women" to the recent lies of "forced labor", "dumping", "starvation" and "the failure of the Five Year Plan", have been disproved again and again. But the capitalist press persists in slanderous attacks on the Soviet Union, regardless of proven facts. Leaders of the Socialist Party have added to the flood of the lies; editorials in the "New Leader" and "Forward" have vilified the Soviet Union.

However, this persistent anti-Soviet propaganda could not prevent great numbers of the rank and file of American workers and farmers, members of labor unions and the Socialist Party, from expressing their solidarity with the Soviet workers and peasants, their admiration for Socialist construction in the Soviet Union, their readiness to defend the workers' republic against imperialist aggression, and their support of the establishment of full diplomatic and trade relations with Soviet Russia. In the course of these years many labor bodies have passed resolutions favoring recognition. Similarly, many branches of the Socialist Party passed such resolutions, despite the hostility of the leadership of the Socialist Party. Thus the International Molders Union of North America, back in 1924, instructed the President of the Union "to see that the resolution of the Convention asking the United States to recognize Soviet Russia was brought to the attention of the proper government officials." (Labor Year Book, 1925) The United Mine Workers' Convention at Indi-

anapolis, in 1924, passed a resolution approving recognition. The Federation of Textile Operatives, at their Convention at Biddeford, Me., in 1925, "endorsed recognition." A number of State Federations of Labor went on record in favor of recognition, such as Pennsylvania, Idaho, Wyoming, etc.

Rank and File Favor Recognition

Following the decline in the numerical strength and militancy of the labor unions, as a result of the traitorous leadership of the officials, the "leaders" succeeded in forcing some of the unions to reverse themselves on the question of recognition. Where they could not bring about a complete reversal, as in the case of the United Mine Workers of America, at the 1932 Convention, slanderous attacks against the Soviet Union were added to the recognition resolution. But where the pressure from the rank and file was strong, many of the labor bodies have reaffirmed their resolutions on recognition and many additional labor organizations passed such resolutions during 1932. Thus the United Textile Workers of America at their 1932 Convention in Boston, "recommended that the Convention demand the immediate recognition of the government of the U.S.S.R. by the government of the U.S.A." The International Ladies Garment Workers Union at the Philadelphia Convention, voted, "that this Convention go on record as demanding that the government of the United States shall immediately recognize and restore diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia." The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the demand for recognition has been expressed in thousands of meetings throughout the country; and thousands of local unions and central bodies throughout the whole labor movement have expressed in various forms the necessity of recognizing Russia; be it therefore

"RESOLVED, that this convention go on record for the immediate and full recognition of Soviet Russia by the United States."

Resolutions favoring recognition have been passed by the International Fur Workers Union of the U.S. and Canada, by the Cloth, Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union. The American Federation of Teachers at their 1932 Convention in Chicago passed a resolution: "that this convention reiterate its position for the immediate recognition of the Government of the Soviet Union by the Government of the United States of America."

The A.F. of L. Committee for Unemployment Insurance, at their conference in Cincinnati, November 1932, adopted the following resolution:

“Resolved, that we go on record favoring full recognition of the Soviet Union by the United States government and the establishment of full diplomatic and trade relations between these two countries.” This conference was attended by 85 delegates from 80 unions, of painters, carpenters, railroad workers, bricklayers, machinists, plumbers, etc., representing over 66,000 organized workers.

The Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers Union in Philadelphia passed a resolution favoring recognition in February, 1933.

American farmers are supporting these labor organizations in demanding recognition. At the Farmers National Relief Conference at Washington, D.C., December 1932 “the delegates concluded their first national Convention after adopting a resolution advocating recognition of Soviet Russia.”

Solidarity of American and Russian Workers

In addition to these organized bodies of workers and farmers, hundreds of thousands of unorganized workers, farmers and the progressive elements of the American middle-class have expressed on numerous occasions sympathy and determination to support the Soviet workers in their successful advance on the road to Socialism. The sympathies of the American workers are determined by concrete facts and experience gained in their own struggles for better conditions. They know that the Soviet workers have achieved the very thing for which they are fighting; they know that the Soviet workers have overthrown capitalist rule in Soviet Russia, have done away with fear of unemployment, have obtained a shorter work day and are building a classless Socialist society for the benefit of all who work by hand or brain in the factories, mines, or on the soil. Many American workers and farmers realize the bond of solidarity which binds them to the Soviet workers and farmers. In numerous meetings held by the Friends of the Soviet Union throughout the country, they have reaffirmed their demand for recognition and their readiness to defend the Soviet Union.

The various objections to recognition dinned into the ears of the American people by the ruling class, supported by officials of the American Federation of Labor, the National Civic Federation and other White Guard and reactionary organizations, have been

disproved time and again by official records, and responsible public men. Such accusations as the refusal to pay debts owing the United States, or the “dumping” of Soviet goods, or the charge that Soviet labor is “forced” labor, have been proven completely false. Workers’ delegations sent to the Soviet Union have brought back proof of the falsity of such accusations; likewise many intellectuals and professional people, businessmen and politicians, utterly unsympathetic to the workers’ rule in Soviet Russia, who have investigated the facts, have refuted the slanders of the enemies of the Soviet Union. Many of these persons are far from understanding or sympathising with the new social order being built by the Soviet workers. Nevertheless, the clearer realization of advantages to be gained by the establishment of official relations with the Soviet Union, or common honesty, compels such sections of the ruling class to denounce the false accusations and to advocate recognition.

“Forced Labor and Dumping”

Space limits us to only a few statements, from the mass of material available:

Mr. John Bassett Moore, former U.S. member of the World Court, said on December 4, 1930: “We have lately been startled by an impulsive and heated outburst on the part of certain of our own officials, over the importation into this country by some of our steel manufacturers of a cargo of Russian manganese, and a short sale by the Soviet Government of some wheat on the Chicago grain exchange. It was hastily charged that the manganese was mined or delivered by convict labor, and that the wheat was “dumped” on the exchange with a view to depress the price of wheat in the United States market. An investigation promptly established the fact that the outcry was not justified.”

Senator Burton K. Wheeler said: “In view of the alarming statements made last year by the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Hyde, relative to the flooding of this country with wheat from Russia, and in view of the later statements of Alexander Legge, Chairman of the Federal Farm Board, advocating an embargo on the importation of wheat, it will be of interest for you to know that the total amount of wheat imported into the U.S. from Russia during the year 1929 was twelve bushels. These figures are official and furnished me by the Department of Commerce. But it will be re-

called that during the last campaign, when the administration was trying to frighten farmers and to apologize for the collapse of the Board, it tried to say that the trouble was caused by a flood of Russian wheat.”

Senator William E Borah, speaking in the U.S. Senate, March 31, 1931, said: “It has been interesting to study the new deluge of propaganda coming out against Russia and to observe how they synchronize with some refusal on the part of Russia to grant large oil concessions or other concessions with reference to her natural resources. We cannot disassociate the propaganda campaign entirely from the selfish interests of those who are dissatisfied with treatment which they receive at the hands of Russia in refusing oil concessions.” Senator Borah might have added that the “deluge of propaganda” is backed by the monopoly interests and by the worst exploiters of the American workers and farmers, the Manganese and Lumber Associations, the Coal barons, etc.

Prof. Frederick L. Schuman, an expert on international affairs, brings this bit of evidence: “The Soviet Government has never repudiated any of its own obligations – a record which bourgeois governments may well envy – and it has repeatedly expressed its willingness to meet pre-revolutionary financial claims for repudiated debts and confiscated property if the Allied and American governments will only acknowledge their responsibility for making reparation to Russia for the injuries inflicted by their illegal intervention in Russian affairs.” Prof. Schuman says further: “Our non-recognition policy has been defended in terms which constitute the most fantastic nonsense ever uttered by one government regarding its relations with another.” It is not “fantastic nonsense” but a definite class policy of the most conscious capitalist government. The United States Government still recognizes White Guard officials of the defunct Tsarist government as the accredited representatives of Russia. Mr. Michel Oustinow, the Tsarist Consul General in New York in 1913, “is still recognized by this government as the Russian Consul General at New York of the last recognized Russian government”, wrote the U.S. Department of State on Sept. 24, 1928. And Mr. Serge Uhget, the White Guard representative of the Tsarist and Kerensky governments, is still permitted by the United States to retain in his custody property properly belonging to the Soviet Government.

American Business Men Need Russian Trade

The prospect of greater trade with the Soviet Union has induced many public men to go on record in favor of recognition. We quote two typical statements:

Senator Cutting said: "The economic crisis in the United States emphasizes the folly of ignoring our one great potential customer, a customer who needs exactly what we have to sell. The logic of events is forcing this country to admit the tragic futility of attempting to ignore a government which has proved its stability, and to which fair play and self-interest alike demand that we grant immediate recognition."

And this by Representative Henry A. Rainey: "The time has come for us to change our policy and recognize Russia and get some of her trade. It is short-sighted statesmanship that keeps us from selling goods in Russia and it is up to the Administration to recognize that nation. Nearly every other country in the world does recognize Russia. They're all working to get her trade. Yet we sit back and let our factories stop running and our people stay idle. That is foolish."

American business men expect of recognition greater trade and profits. There is no reason to doubt that greater trade will come with recognition, especially if normal trading facilities, practiced in international commerce, are established. In the second Five Year Plan the Soviet Government proposes to invest in the national economy of the country 75 billion dollars, and to raise the standard of living of the population 2½ to 3 times over the present level. The more industrialized the Soviet Union becomes, the greater the prosperity of its people, the more trading it is likely to do with other countries. The foreign trade of the Soviet Union up to the present amounted to less than 3 per cent of its gross production, averaging around 800 million dollars annually in the last five years. The vast construction program of the second Five Year Plan, railroad and road building, extensive housing construction, electrical development, the completion of collectivization, etc, will require a great amount of machinery and materials. The United States can supply, under proper conditions, a part of such equipment and materials. The Soviet Union has made no secret of its admiration of American technique, American engineering and technical methods. Hundreds of American plants were busy on Soviet orders in 1929 and 1930

which gave employment to tens of thousands of workers. In Germany, approximately one out of every five workers employed in industry is working on orders for Soviet Russia. Col. Hugh L. Cooper estimates that a billion dollars' worth of business annually is not too much to expect between the United States and the Soviet Union, under normal conditions of trade.

Contrast of Two Worlds: Capitalist Decay Versus Socialist Construction

The Soviet Union has achieved successfully the Five Year Plan in four years, and is now starting on the second Five Year Plan. Even writers for the capitalist press, Duranty, Barnes, Lyons and others can pick only minor flaws in the magnificent victories of Socialist construction. They point out shortcomings in some branches of industry, but despite these shortcomings they must admit that "In terms of world production Soviet Russia, during the Five Year Plan, jumped from sixth to third place in coal, from sixth to second place in pig iron, from third to second place in oil, from fourth to second place in machine building, in electric energy from eighth to third place. The most phenomenal success under the Plan is found in agricultural collectivization, which now amounts to 80 per cent of the entire cultivated area." (Associated Press dispatch, December 31, 1932.)

While the Soviet Union has made tremendous gains in production, and in raising the material and cultural level of the workers, in the capitalist world the opposite has taken place. We need not recite here the terrifying facts and figures of industrial and agricultural decline, of mass unemployment and starvation to which the toiling masses are subjected in capitalist countries. The foreign trade of the United States, to take this one branch of the country's business, has declined 63 per cent in exports and 67 per cent in imports in the first half of 1932 as compared with the same period of 1931. Foreign trade in 1931 had already suffered a sharp decline from 1930. Exports for 11 months of 1932 totaled \$1,481,000,000 against \$3,279,000,000 for the same period of 1930. (U. S. Department of Commerce.) American manufacturers and exporters must find new markets for their products; they are turning to the Soviet Union as the greatest available market. Hence we hear recognition discussed more favorably in a section of the capitalist press and among certain industrial and political groups.

Opponents of Recognition Are Enemies of Working Class

To counteract this favorable tendency, the opponents of recognition, the enemies of the Soviet Union, are intensifying their campaign. The notorious Soviet baiter, Representative Hamilton Fish in company with Representative Collier, Senator Oddie and others are working hard to defeat any move for recognition. Officials of the A.F. of L., President Green, Matthew Woll, seconded by Ralph Easley of the National Civic Federation, the Reverend Edmund A. Walsh, the American Coalition of Patriotic Societies and similar reactionary organizations, oppose the workers' rule in Soviet Russia as they oppose the struggles of American labor for better living conditions here. Their attacks on the Soviet Union are indirect attacks upon the living standards of American workers.

The super-patriots and "friends of the workingman" shed crocodile tears over the Soviet worker, forced to a life of labor (6 or 7 hours a day, two to four weeks vacation with pay, full social insurance, no unemployment – fifteen million jobless Americans please note). We point to the report of a man none too friendly to the Soviet regime – Sidney Webb, an old laborite and former member of the British Government: "Certainly, the people of the U.S.S.R. do not look like slaves or talk like slaves. The traveller who watches the men and women thronging the streets or filling the theatres and cinemas of the cities, or the young people bicycling along the roads of the densely populated Donetz mining and manufacturing area, or crowding into the clubhouses on the great State farms will not easily believe that this is an enslaved people. The emancipation that the revolution has brought to the workman is, of course, not merely a rise in his standard of life, measured in material things. His thought, his energy, his ambition, have all been aroused. The new conditions of the wage contract in the industries of the U.S.S.R. are typical of the intense stimulus that is being deliberately brought to bear on the worker in order to emancipate him from the narrow limits of routine in which the wage earner in all countries usually finds himself imprisoned. What is even more remarkable is the freedom of thought and of criticism that the workman in the Soviet Union enjoys, and uses to an almost incredible extent. The average factory operative in the U.S.S.R. feels actually more free than the similar workman in Britain or the United States." (Current History, January, 1933.)

Labor Fakers Cannot Stop the Building of Socialism

While the Soviet workers proceed with the building of a new social order in the Soviet Union, while the Soviet Trade Unions are a powerful instrument in this construction and in the steady improvement of the living conditions of the Soviet workers and peasants, most American labor officials persist in denying the achievements of the Soviet workers.

The American Federation of Labor Convention in Cincinnati, November, 1932, which was ruled by these bureaucrats, "declared against the recognition of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics by the United States Government." The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party in its session in Baltimore, December, 1932, sent the following greetings to the American Federation of Labor: "The Socialist Party and all its affiliated state and local organizations will fight with you, actively and loyally, for the realization of the program you have adopted at your Cincinnati Convention." This program includes the above cited declaration against recognition. Can the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party after this, pretend that the officials of the Socialist Party support the Soviet Union? True, at its convention in Milwaukee in May, 1932, the Socialist Party did pass a resolution for recognition. But the "Socialist" leaders, Hillquit, Thomas and others took occasion at the same time to attack the Soviet Union. The resolution was passed because of the pressure of the rank and file members of the Socialist Party, who are honestly in favor of recognition and for the support and defense of Socialist construction in the Soviet Union.

White Guards and Imperialists

In league with other haters of the Soviet Government are the White Guard organizations in America and other countries, composed of former Russian nobility, Cossack officers and exploiters of labor who were driven out of Russia by the Revolution. These White Guard organizations form a spider-web over the globe. In Manchuria they hire out to the Japanese imperialists in preparation for an attack on the Soviet Union. In Europe and America they scheme and plot, and openly advocate murder, arson and war on the Soviet Union.

The ruling class, the imperialists and war mongers make use of the White Guard organizations, of "socialist" and trade union lead-

ers and reactionary organizations of every type, as so many weapons in their imperialist schemes and attacks on the toiling masses.

The Threat of War

Logically these attacks are more intense against the workers of the Soviet Union, for the Soviet workers have become a direct example to the workers in capitalist countries. They have proven their ability to manage a country of vast extent and resources without the capitalists. The imperialist powers of the world are prepared to go to any length to destroy the Workers Republic. They are prepared to bring on a world war in order to retain their power. Never in the history of the world has there been such a race for armaments as there is at the present time. Every capitalist country is spending colossal sums of money for the upkeep and extension of armies and navies. The United States spent 827 million dollars on its military preparations in 1930, against 313 millions in 1914. The capitalist countries of the rest of the world spent in the same year 3,300 million dollars on their armies and navies. An appalling total of over 4 billion dollars is wrung from the toil of the workers for the purposes of war. The capitalist class exacts these huge expenditures in order to secure the continuation of their rule. Therefore they oppose the Soviet Union's proposals for total disarmament and even proposals for partial disarmament are shelved and disregarded. The capitalist powers regard any limitation of armaments as a threat to their power and will not commit themselves to limit even on paper.

The Soviet Union Wants Peace

The Soviet Government, as Foreign Commissar Litvinov has repeatedly declared, is prepared to scrap its army and navy provided the other powers will do likewise. Litvinov is making these proposals in accord with the determined peace policy of the Soviet Government; war is against the interests of the Soviet workers, as of all workers, and peace is essential to the building of the Socialist State. The capitalist powers are exposing the hypocrisy of their peace professions by the continuous increase of armaments, by turning every country into an armed camp.

In this respect the United States is leading the other capitalist powers. Not only does it spend more money on its army and navy than any other country, but alone of all the great powers it has persistently refused to recognize and deal directly with the Soviet

Government. This is a direct threat to the peace of the world, as was pointed out by Litvinov in his recent statement at Geneva: "The policy of the Soviet Government dictates the establishment and maintenance of normal relations with all States and does not consider rupture or refusal of relations to be suitable means of regulating international questions. But it is beyond doubt that the commencement of the present troubles in the Far East are in no small degree due to the fact that not all of the States situated on the shores of the Pacific Ocean have been maintaining diplomatic relations with one another. The Soviet Union has its hands unfettered by any secret political combinations or agreements. Consequently, an improvement in its relations with one country does not mean the worsening of its relations with another. Only such a policy genuinely assists and strengthens general peace. It is only when all States maintain relations with one another that we shall be able to speak seriously of international cooperation in the cause of peace, and of international observation of peace pacts and agreements and the creation of universally recognized and authoritative international organizations."

We have quoted at some length the statements of public men, progressive trade union and farmer organizations voicing the demand for recognition of the Soviet Union. The workers and farmers of America, the fifteen million unemployed, are vitally concerned in this issue. The immediate recognition of Soviet Russia will prove to the Soviet workers and peasants the solidarity of their American brothers, the determination to stand shoulder to shoulder with them against political and economic discrimination, against imperialist war, and for the defense of the Workers' Republic. Recognition will not remove the danger of aggression on the Workers' Republic from capitalist powers, but the mobilization around this issue of millions of the working masses will cause the ruling class of the United States to think twice before attacking the first workers' country. It is important, therefore, that the Government of the United States be compelled by mass pressure to make the establishment of unconditional diplomatic and trade relations with the Soviet Union one of the first acts of the new administration at Washington.

Demand Recognition Now!

The Friends of the Soviet Union in the United States has under-

taken a nationwide campaign for recognition of the Soviet Government by the United States Government, with the demand for full and unconditional diplomatic and trade relations. In this campaign the F.S.U. appeals to workers, farmers, professionals, intellectuals, individuals and organized groups, trade unions, farmers' associations, trade and professional societies. The F. S. U. will carry the campaign to every city and town in the United States and will endeavor to secure a minimum of one million signatures to its demand for recognition. The F.S.U. urges every true friend of Soviet Russia, every individual and organization that realizes the tremendous importance and timeliness of this demand, to join in the campaign, to become active participants in it. The F.S.U. will send speakers and organizers throughout the country, will circulate signature lists, will carry on a campaign in the press, in furtherance of the demand for recognition.

The F.S.U. in launching this campaign, feels that it is serving the interests not only of the Soviet Union, but of the workers and farmers of America, of the toiling masses everywhere. It feels that this campaign will cement the bonds of solidarity between the American and Soviet workers and thus strengthen the opposition to war preparations and to the capitalist attacks on the living standards of the working class.

Help us in this campaign. Demand recognition of the Soviet Government.

Pass resolutions in your unions, fraternal and other organizations in favor of recognition.

Write to us for petition blanks and help secure signatures. Circulate this pamphlet. Subscribe to our magazine, SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY.

Join the Friends of the Soviet Union.