

ROOSEVELT'S "BIG STICK" HITS PANAMA

Wall Street Grabs the Canal Zone

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ARTICLE III.

Theodore Roosevelt, who engineered the statesmanlike rape of Panama, in 1903, was a very remarkable man. He committed statesmanlike crimes against a number of other Latin-American countries, got a lot of publicity as the only man in the United States who could tell "good trusts" from "bad trusts," sent federal troops to break a strike of anthracite coal miners, and won the Nobel peace prize. Accompanying his little Panaman adventure, Roosevelt issued a significant statement, which has been called "a new stage in the Monroe Doctrine." It declared that if the United States was to continue "to protect Latin-American states," it had the right to exercise an international police power over them.

Expressed Imperialist Era

This doctrine was a timely expression of the policy of imperialist expansion on which American capitalism had already entered. Panama was an outstanding instance. The fact that today, 22 years later, American soldiers are patrolling the familiar streets of the City of Panama, with fixed bayonets, proves that the doctrine was no mere chance phrase, but characterized a whole epoch of conscious aggression.

It was the war with Spain, and the acquisition of the Philippines and Hawaii, bringing American capitalism face to face with new problems in the Pacific, that made the Atlantic-Pacific canal an "immediate necessity of American foreign policy." And necessity knows no law—certainly no law of any dinky little Latin-American state!

U. S. Gets Canal Zone

Vigorous pushing of the negotiations for lease of the territory of the Canal Zone followed as a matter of course. Possession of the Canal Zone was necessary "to assure the safety of the canal,"—and no doubt the rest of Panama was made a United States protectorate to assure the Canal Zone. And subsequently, of course, the entire Caribbean area had to be brought under the American sphere of influence for the same reason. In much the same way, Great Britain has been gobbling up everything in sight in the eastern hemisphere for generations, "to assure the route to India."

There is much truth in such claims. The economic and military problems of imperialism are interconnected. Once we grant the initial justification of imperialism we must expect to be led far afield, into brutal and bloody enterprises, for the sake of Wall Street.

Advance in Caribbean

The building of the Panama canal and the advance of the United States in the Caribbean went naturally hand in hand with the development of new political policies in what has been called the larger Canal Zone, that is, the West Indies, Mexico, Central America, Colombia and Venezuela. Some of these policies, which have been pretty definitely formulated, are the establishment of protectorates, the supervision of finances, the control of all possible canal routes, the acquisition of naval bases and coaling stations, and the policing of "disorderly countries." Porto Rico had been acquired at the close of the war with Spain and Cuba had become a protectorate, the terms of which were defined by the Platt amendment. Panama was brought into the imperial system, and the Dominican republic later came under the financial supervision of the United States; President Taft landed and maintained a body of marines in Nicaragua, and proposed to place both that country and Honduras under financial supervision; President Wilson went further and assumed the administration of Haitian affairs, leased from Nicaragua for a term of 99 years a naval base on Fonseca Bay, and purchased the Danish West Indies (now the Virgin Islands).

Monroe Doctrine is "Gospel of Grab"

Today, American aggression is respected and feared thruout Latin-America. The Monroe doctrine has become the symbol of American imperialism in the western world. It is

WORKER CORRESPONDENTS OF NOVY MIR TO START LIVING NEWSPAPER HERE

The first issue of the living newspaper "published" by the Chicago Novy Mir worker correspondents will see the light tonight at 8 p. m., at the Workers' House, 1902 W. Division St. It promises to be a novel affair. All who understand Russian are urged to attend this new venture in labor journalism.

Soviet Russia Second Motherland to Asian Thinkers, Says Indian

MOSCOW, Sept. 15.—(By Mail).—Mr. Brahanzakuna, very well-known Indian writer who arrived lately to Leningrad, said to a representative of the press:

"I came here, first of all, as a Hindu, feeling that it is my duty to express to the Russian Academy of Sciences our deep gratitude, because India is indebted so much to your academy, which has not only enriched Indiology with great works but tried to spread the knowledge of India amongst broad masses. For this purpose, the academy, in spite of many expenses, has published the famous Sanskrit Dictionary which is the only dictionary of its kind in the world, and also other books on Sanskrit language.

"It requires, indeed, a great love for and interest in India to start such enormous work notwithstanding many material difficulties. It was a great achievement and equally great sacrifice.

"The hot sands of Central Asia buried the past glory of India, but the Russian Academy of Sciences opened it for the whole world. Let us hope that the academy will act in the same spirit in the future and contribute to a closer approachement between India and all Eastern nations and Soviet Russia, which appears now as a second motherland for every thinking man in the East."

Revise Circus Program.

MOSCOW, Oct. 15.—The art section of the chief board of political education has worked out a plan to divide the repertory of circus performances into three parts:

1. Demonstration of physical beauty.
2. Training of animals.
3. Clownish tricks and satire.

It is also suggested to organize a new kind of Soviet pantomime. It was also decided to do away with all "thrilling numbers."

Window Glass Shop Shutdown Throws 200 Men Out on Streets

By Worker Correspondent

MONESSEN, Pa., October 16.—Two hundred men were thrown out of work at the American Window Glass company at New Eagle, Pa., for an indefinite period.

COMRADE BOTVIN

Their bullets found his brain,
The brain whose only thought
Was of the class for which he dreamed,
For which he fought.

He sang—O heart of red—
He sang his way to death;
"Down with the bourgeois," cried
With his last breath.

Fell riddled with their lead
O comrades, workers, see
How with his bleeding brow he points
To liberty!

—Henry George Weiss.

one of the three central watchwords of American foreign policy.

The fight to get the United States government permanently out of Panama is thus a fight against the whole policy of American imperialism. American workers, whose interests are diametrically opposed to those of the Wall Street clique that rules our government, must recognize imperialism for what it is. They cannot afford to believe the pretty fairy tales taught in school for the purpose of convincing future cannon fodder that the U. S. government is an angel of peace and has never been imperialistic. These stories are about as true as the statement that Panama is a free country. Class-conscious workers will make common cause, not with the profit-hungry Wall Street gang, but with the oppressed peoples of the countries under the heel of American imperialism. In the concrete case of Panama, they must demand the instant withdrawal of all American troops, the abrogation of the vicious treaty of 1904, and the abandonment of all claim to a protectorate over the republic.