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The Organ of the Social-Democracy.

Established January 19, 1884.

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LONDON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1914.

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**BRITISH SOCIALIST PARTY.**  
CHANDOS HALL: 21A, Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.  
**Autumn and Winter Addresses.**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, at 7.30 p.m.**  
**E. C. FAIRCHILD**  
on  
"The Attitude of the Socialist Party  
towards the European War."  
*Instrumental Music.* Admission Free.  
Refreshments at Popular Prices.

**NORTH ISLINGTON B.S.P.**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1914,**  
**H. M. HYNDMAN**  
will speak at  
**FELLOWSHIP HALL,**  
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Doors open 7 o'clock. Commence 7.30.  
**ADMISSION FREE.**  
This is the first of a Series of good-class Lectures and  
Concerts to be held every Sunday.  
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**NOW READY.**  
The OCTOBER issue of  
**The SOCIALIST RECORD**  
The Quarterly Journal of Internal  
Affairs for Members of the B.S.P.

**Contents:**  
Report of Executive Committee Meeting.  
National War Emergency Workers' Committee (H. M.  
Hyndman): Memorandum on Joint Stock Banks: Reports  
of Committees on Unemployment and Scales of Relief  
of Distress.  
The Organisation of the B.S.P. Etc. Etc. Etc.

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## THE WAR.

**Letter from Plechanoff.**

**Statement from Vandervelde.**

### A MESSAGE FROM COMRADE PLECHANOFF.

We have received the following letter from our comrade Georges Plechanoff, the well-known Russian Social-Democrat, known to members of the old S.D.F. as the author of "Anarchism and Socialism":—

Dear Comrades,—For some time past there has been a good deal said in your journal about the Franco-Russian alliance.

If I am not mistaken, there are those of our comrades in England who take quite seriously the statements of the German General Staff that, in beginning this war, they desired to fight against Russian barbarism.

International Socialist Bureau, convened with special urgency at Brussels, took the stand that Germany should prevail upon Austria, France upon Russia, to assure the entire world of the localisation of the conflict. And with our whole hearts we render this testimony to our German comrades, that in their efforts for the maintenance of peace they did their duty, their whole duty, and more than their duty.

"But this effort has been in vain. The war has become generalised. All direct communications have been rendered impossible between the Socialists of Germany and those of other countries.

"On both sides millions of proletarians find themselves confronting each other as enemies.

"What gives our situation a particu-

### "VORWÄRTS" REAPPEARS, BUT—!

In "Vorwärts" for October 1 is printed a letter from General von Kessel at his request, stating that our comrade Hugo Haase, with the manager of "Vorwärts," Richard Fischer, entered into a definite agreement with the General to the effect that if "Vorwärts" was granted permission to continue publication no reference should be made "to class hatred or the class struggle" during the war. General von Kessel states that the editorial committee of "Vorwärts" were prepared to agree to these terms while martial law held sway, and the General revokes the order of suspension, demanding that his letter shall appear on the front page of the next issue of the journal.



# Letter from Plechanoff.

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This argument cannot be upheld. ~~and how is it possible to be-~~ lieve that the Emperor of the Junkers has any intention of destroying the power of the Emperor of the "Black Hundreds?"

Since our Revolution of 1905-6, Wilhelm II. has been the strongest support of his brother, Nicholas II. In Russia everybody knows it, and so true is it that even at the present time—even during the war itself—the extreme reactionary party leans toward Wilhelm. The organ of this party, the "Russian Flag" (which is known in Russia as the "Prussian Flag") is doing its best to exonerate the Germans from the atrocities which have called forth the just indignation of the entire civilised world.

It is not for freedom that Germany has declared war. No, comrades. She made war for the conquest of economic supremacy. This is the Imperialist programme which she strives to realise.

And, so far as my country is concerned, once vanquished by Germany it would become her economic vassal.

Germany would impose upon Russia such onerous conditions as would render her further economic evolution terribly difficult. But as economic evolution is the basis of social and political evolution, Russia would thus lose all, or nearly all, the chances of bringing Tsarism to an end.

That is why there is among us only the extreme reactionary party which can reasonably hope for the triumph of Germany.

The Socialist world must not be led astray by the phraseology of the Great German General Staff. The victory of Germany means the setback of progress in Western Europe and the definite, or almost definite, triumph of Russian despotism.—Yours very truly,

GEORGES PLECHANOFF.

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