
John Reed Named Consul General to NY by Bolsheviki

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(Special to *The Call*.)

PETROGRAD, Jan. 30 [1918].— John Reed, Russian correspondent of the *New York Call*, has been appointed consul general at New York City by the Bolshevik government. This was announced today at Smolny Institute, headquarters of the Lenin-Trotsky administration.

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John Reed, whose appointment as consul-general to the United States from Russia has just been announced, is one of the most brilliant of the younger group of American journalists. Reed is just under 30 years of age, and from his graduation at Harvard to the present time has been active, not only in his profession, but wherever there has been a battle going on between the oppressed and the oppressors. Reed has openly championed the cause of those struggling for better conditions. His activity in the cause of the Paterson silk mill strike, where he was arrested by the police tools of the employers, is remembered by all soldiers of the common good in this country.

He was on the staff of the *Metropolitan*

Magazine at the outbreak of the war. Going to the scene of the titanic struggle in Europe, his portrayal of the most bloody tragedy ever staged by the world's masters was that of one moved by immense sympathy for the human race in misery.

Shortly after his return to the United States came the news of the Russian Revolution. His experience in that country while its people were fighting under the command of the tsar enabled him to sense at once that this revolution was to be something different than a mere revolt against the tsar. That out of it would grow a real people's revolution — a complete turning over.

He knew that he would not be able to tell the whole truth through the ordinary newspaper or magazine channels, and it was the truth that he wanted to send out of Russia. He made arrangements to send a series of articles

to *The Masses* and to supply what news could be gotten out to *The Call*.

Reed left here in the latter part of the summer of 1917, and arrived in Petrograd in time to



witness the fall of the Kerensky regime and the triumph of the people's revolution, led by the Bolsheviki, in November.

He managed to get out but two dispatches through this paper, one of which, delivered many weeks after it was sent, contained the first real story of the downfall of the group dominated by Kerensky and the entrance of Lenin and Trotsky upon the scene as representing a government of the workers and peasants.

In the meantime he had been indicted with other editors of *The Masses* in the federal court of this city for an article which he wrote, and *The Masses* published, dealing with conscription. When he heard of this indictment he sent home word that he would come home and face it and he was expected here some time in March [1918].

The magazine articles which he wrote from Russia, and which are still being received, are to be published exclusively in *The Liberator*, under the editorship of Max Eastman. The first number of this magazine will appear on Lincoln's birthday, February 12. Under these circumstances, Reed's appearance as the consular representative of Russia to this country is a dramatic entrance that only times like the present could have made possible.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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