

reconsidered. Several of the members of the Revolutionary Military Committee and the Party Center were opposed to the uprising and supported the traitorous policy of those capitulators, Zinoviev and Kamenev. Among those opposed were also a number of Trotskyites, who have since proved to be enemies of the people. On the morning of October 27 there was a joint meeting of the members of the Party Center and the Bolshevik members of the Revolutionary Military Committee who were on the spot. By a majority of 9 to 5 it was resolved to make another attempt to come to terms with Ryabtsev. Thus that same morning, October 27, negotiations were resumed.

The news of the negotiations with the Junkers evoked dissatisfaction, and in some cases even open indignation, in the working-class sections of the city: everywhere arms were being collected in feverish haste, food supplies were being laid in and Red Guard detachments formed; the workers were eager for the fray, and suddenly, in the midst of all this—negotiations! Of their own accord the various district committees sent delegations to the barracks to speak to the soldiers and to find out what they thought. The soldiers welcomed the delegates with the utmost enthusiasm. In all parts of the city, soldiers were marching through the streets without their officers and frequently even without arms.

"Where to?" passers-by asked in alarm.

"To the Soviet!"

Through his Menshevik scouts Ryabtsev knew of the differences within the Revolutionary Military Committee. The vacillation among the leaders of the uprising led him to increase his demands. He was no longer satisfied with the withdrawal

of the Company of the 193rd Regiment; he now demanded that the soldiers of the 56th Regiment also be withdrawn from the Kremlin and replaced by Junkers.

All day long on October 27 delegates kept scuttling back and forth between the Kremlin and the "Committee of Public Safety" on the one hand, and the Moscow Soviet on the other. First Mensheviks would come, then "Left" Socialist-Revolutionaries. The Socialist-Revolutionaries and the Mensheviks, the go-betweens of the revolution, boosted one plan after another for bringing about a "reconciliation," whereas in point of fact they were really out to secure the complete capitulation of the revolutionary forces.

Under cover of the negotiations Ryabtsev went his own way. He ordered that all the officers then on leave in Moscow be registered, called out forces from other parts of the region and got in touch with General Headquarters. The latter informed him that Kerensky and his troops were marching on Petrograd and that Gatchina had already been taken. That same day an English broadcasting station announced that 200,000 men were concentrated near Petrograd under Kerensky's command. General Headquarters added that Kerensky's troops were already moving on Tsarskoye Selo, which is only about twelve miles from Petrograd. It looked as though it were all up with the capital. Moreover, General Headquarters confirmed that troops would arrive in Moscow early on the morning of October 28. Upon receiving this information Ryabtsev made an about face. On the evening of October 27 he presented Nogin with the following ultimatum to be conveyed to the Revolutionary Military Committee: the Revolutionary Military Committee shall immediately discontinue all