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SECOND EDITORIAL

THE RUSSIANS' "TERRIBLE MISTAKE."

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE "terrible mistake" (as Count Cassini calls it) of the Russian Baltic squadron in firing upon the peaceful British fleet in the North Sea—how is its repetition to be avoided in an atmosphere surcharged with modern war? These "terrible mistakes" are the logical outcome of the fear and hatred engendered by the present-day struggle for territory and markets. Any one of them is likely to complicate matters, or precipitate a conflict that will end in world-wide disaster. Any one of them is likely to prove the spark that will blow the entire magazine to destruction. These "terrible mistakes" and the dangers attending them can only be prevented by the end of war, through the termination of the present-day struggle for territory and markets. This means that war can only end when capitalism ends, for it is capitalism—which robs the workers so that they cannot buy back all that they produce, leaving a surplus that must be disposed of abroad—that makes both territory and markets necessary. To end capitalism is the mission of the working class. Capitalism itself is preparing and organizing them for this purpose. They are slowly but surely awakening to the fact, and it will not be long before they will perform their task and make the "terrible mistakes" of modern warfare a thing of the past.

Hasten the day!

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