

Dec. 7, 1920

Mr. John Spargo,
Old Bennington, Vt.

My dear John Spargo:

I am glad to sign this little protest against the anti-Semitism campaign. It is a vicious piece of business - bad at any time but particularly bad at this time.

I read your first article in the Times the other day, answering Wells, and rejoiced in it. There is just one point which I question. I carried away the impression from your article - which, unfortunately, I did not keep - that you believed the Bolsheviki to have had the deliberate intention at the start to over-run the world, that the only reason they had let things go to pot inside Russia was that their mind really was on the world as a whole, the effacing of distinctions everywhere in order that there might be more hope for their appeal to the proletariat.

Now, the impression that I carried away from what reading I have done - and of course it is nothing compared to yours - is that as they more or less consciously realized their incapacity to organize the country for production and order, they more and more insisted on the larger campaign as a sort of self-protective measure, a measure to divert the populace from the grotesque failure at home. That is, that the world campaign has grown in proportion to the failure of the domestic campaign.

I may be wrong in this, and you may have the documents to prove me so. I only mention it because you have shown such candor and care in the work you have done.

With all good wishes, believe me

Sincerely yours,