

The Mensheviks in the Russian Revolution

EDITED BY ABRAHAM ASCHER

~



THAMES AND HUDSON · LONDON

Contents

INTRODUCTION	8
PART ONE: THE ORIGINS OF MENSHEVISM	44
1 Lenin's Resolution on Party Membership <i>July–August 1903</i>	44
a Martov's Résolution <i>July–August 1903</i>	45
b Egorov on the Membership Resolutions <i>July–August 1903</i>	45
c Axelrod on Party Membership <i>July–August 1903</i>	45
d Martov on Party Membership <i>July–August 1903</i>	46
e Lenin on Party Membership <i>July–August 1903</i>	47
f Plekhanov on Party Membership <i>July–August 1903</i>	48
2 The Unification of Russian Social Democracy and Its Tasks P. AXELROD <i>15 December 1903 and 15 January 1904</i>	48
PART TWO: THE REVOLUTION OF 1905	53
3 Letter to Party Organizations <i>November 1904</i>	53
4 Concerning an Armed Uprising <i>April–May 1905</i>	56
a On the Seizure of Power and Participation in a Provisional Government <i>April–May 1905</i>	57
5 The Peasant Question and the Revolution <i>20 November 1905</i>	58
6 Axelrod's Speech at the Fourth Party Congress <i>April–May 1906</i>	59
7 The Menshevik Agrarian Programme Passed by the Fourth Congress <i>April–May 1906</i>	64
8 The People's Duma and the Workers' Congress P. AXELROD <i>1905</i>	65
9 Resolution on Partisan Activities Passed by the Fifth Congress <i>April–May 1907</i>	68
PART THREE: THE ERA OF REACTION, 1907–1914	70
10 Saviours or Destroyers? L. MARTOV <i>1911</i>	70
11 The Struggle for Legality F. DAN <i>January–February 1910</i>	73
12 Critical Sketches A. POTRESOV <i>1910</i>	75

PART FOUR: WORLD WAR I

13	Declaration of Menshevik and Bolshevik Deputies to the <i>Duma August 1914</i>	78
14	Working-Class Problems of War and Peace P. AXELROD, S. LAPINSKI, L. MARTOV 1916	79
15	Letter Addressed to the Copenhagen Conference POTRESOV AND HIS COLLEAGUES 1915	83

PART FIVE: THE REVOLUTION OF 1917

16	A Menshevik Statement on the Provisional Government <i>March 1917</i>	7
17	Tsereteli on War Aims 2 April 1917	89
18	Tsereteli's Speech on Returning from Siberian Exile <i>March 1917</i>	91
19	The Mensheviks on Lenin's Programme 6 April 1917	92
20	Policies of the Provisional Government I. G. TSERETELI <i>June 1917</i>	94
21	The Mensheviks Explain July 1917	95
22	Resolution of the Defensist Group A. N. POTRESOV <i>August 1917</i>	97
23	Martov Urges Soviet to Seize Power 16 July 1917	100
a	Martov's Resolution: Introduced at Meeting of Executive Committee of Soviets 17 July 1917	101
24	A Menshevik Appeal to Workers and Soldiers 6 November 1917	102
		103

PART SIX: BOLSHEVIK RULE

25	Statement by the Menshevik Internationalists 9 November 1917	105
26	Suppression of the Press 22 November 1917	107
27	The Constituent Assembly 27 December 1918–1 January 1919	108
28	The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk L. MARTOV	110
29	To All Working Men and Women. What Is To Be Done? 12 July 1919	111
30	Letter to our German Comrades L. MARTOV 28 December 1918	117
31	Speech to the Seventh All-Russian Congress of Soviets F. DAN November 1919	118

32 The Dictatorship of a Revolutionary Minority L. MARTOV <i>1920</i>	119
33 Resolutions of the Party Conference <i>March–April 1920</i>	119
34 Resolution on the International <i>12 March 1920</i>	124
35 Dictatorship and Democracy L. MARTOV <i>1919</i>	125
36 Speech at the International Socialist Conference at Bern P. AXELROD <i>February 1919</i>	127
37 Comrade Axelrod on the Struggle Against Bolshevism <i>20 April 1921</i>	130
 NOTES TO INTRODUCTION	137
 BIBLIOGRAPHY	140
 CHRONOLOGY	142
 INDEX	144