

LENIN: THE MAN AND HIS WORK

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Lenin: The Man and His Work by Albert Rhys Williams & Raymond Robins & Arthur Ransome

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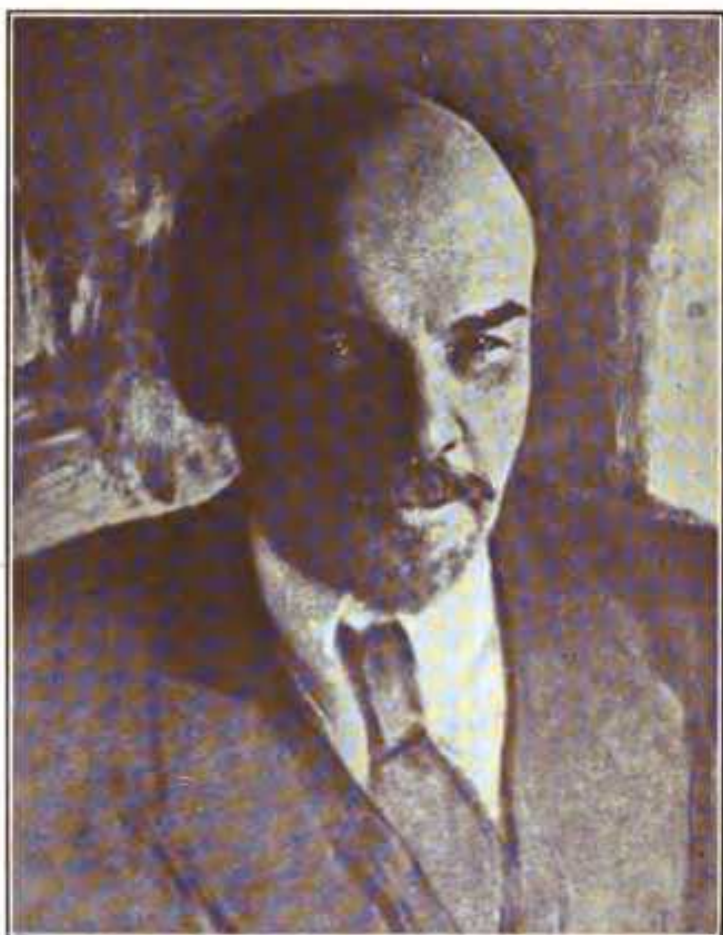
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ALBERT RHYS WILLIAMS & RAYMOND ROBINS & ARTHUR RANSOME

LENIN: THE MAN AND HIS WORK



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NIKOLAI LENIN ·

LENIN

The Man and His Work

BY

ALBERT RHYS WILLIAMS

and the impressions of

COL. RAYMOND ROBINS

and

ARTHUR RANSOME



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INTRODUCTION

BY ALBERT RHYS WILLIAMS

1. The First Wild Tales About Lenin

THE world knows very little of the man who for two years has been the Premier of Russia. The London *Times* says that this is due to the natural reticence and aloofness of Lenin. "If Lenin appears to the average Englishman as a red-shirted, high-booted pirate-chief, the fault is chiefly of his own making."

Hardly. Lenin is not entirely to blame. The blockade and the British censorship have had considerable share in it. They completely severed Russia from the rest of the world. Even the Associated Press could not break

through that censorship. It has never been accused of revolutionary leanings, but a large percentage of its mild cable despatches were regarded by the British as dangerous to the American people. The British held to be dangerous any facts that reflected favorably on the Soviet Government or its Premier.

Consequently, in lieu of facts about Lenin the public was served with fancies and legends by the "special correspondents" in Paris, London, Stockholm and Copenhagen.

In one cabled despatch Lenin would appear in the morning narrowly escaping out of the clutch of the enemy by leaping from an armored train in Siberia, while an afternoon despatch would reveal Lenin looking through the bars of his Moscow prison where he had been thrown and chained by the terrible Trotzky. The third, not to be outdone by this startling piece of news, would have Lenin with portfolio under his arm walking debonairly down the gang-plank of a Spanish steamer,