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"OCTOBER" (1928)

TEN DAYS

That Shook the World
(RUSSIAN MADE)

Amkino production and release. Directed by S. M. Eisenstein. Photography by Tiff. No other credits given. At Little Carnegie Playhouse, New York. Week Nov. 2. Running time, 75 minutes.

This Russian film aroused protest last summer when Arthur Hammerstein tried to book it into his Broadway theatre following "The Fall of St. Petersburg." At that time it was labelled as Soviet Russia propaganda and the censors refused to allow it to be shown.

Mike Mindlin was able to get it past the reviewing board for its American premiere at his new ritzy sure seater. In present form it can harm no one and is likely to prove okay in the art film houses.

~~Eisenstein, the young Russian di-~~rector, with all the resources of the Soviet placed at his command to film the events of the 10 historical October days which preceded the overthrow of the Kerensky government in Russia, soon after the Czar had been deposed, has fallen far short in his efforts to create an outstanding screen record. Using no scenario or story for guidance, he has merely strung together a series of news reel shots of various committees in the Russian uprising.

To one not familiar with Russian events immediately prior to the formation of the Soviet government this flicker won't help much. Here and there Eisenstein has hit what he was after. Several of his sequences of rushing troops and rioting peasants are capably handled. His skill in picking types to play the parts of Kerensky, Trotsky and Lenin as well as minor figures also worthy.

Photography by Tiff (Russians haven't much use for a front moniker) nothing exceptional, most of the shots being recorded with statues in the foreground.

For the average moving picture patron "Ten Days" will be nine days too long.

Nov. 7, '28